

Hassan: Med-Dead Canal dangerous

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan this evening said that the Israeli project to open the Med-Dead Canal is dangerous to Jordan's productive, industrial and agricultural projects which mainly depend on water. In a television interview in English this evening, Prince Hassan also pointed out the danger of nuclear radiation emanating from the nuclear reactors which Israel plans to build on the banks of the canal. Prince Hassan explained the illegitimacy of Israel's use of the Gaza Strip, whose fate has not yet been decided, for the purposes of the canal. He said, "as usual Israel creates its accomplishments and faces the world with them without any regard to international law."

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U.S. drops suit against ATT

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (R) — The Justice Department announced today that it had dropped a long and costly antitrust (monopoly) suit against American Telephone and Telegraph company (ATT) after reaching a settlement with the firm. The department has for years sought to break up ATT, accusing the world's largest non-government corporation of monopolising the U.S. telecommunications industry. The department announced at a press conference that ATT will undertake an 18-month reorganisation after which local ATT telephone companies will be divested by the parent firm. At the same time, informed sources said the government and computer giant International Business Machines (IBM) were also expected to announce shortly progress towards settlement in another major antitrust suit.

Romanian envoy leaves Israel

TEL AVIV, Jan. 8 (R) — A Romanian envoy left Israel today after delivering a message from President Nicolae Ceausescu to Prime Minister Menachem Begin and discussing prospects of increasing trade between the two countries. Vassily Pungan spent three days in Israel during which he extended an invitation to Mr. Begin to visit Romania. The prime minister accepted but no date was set. The envoy brought a message dealing with international, regional and bilateral issues and took back with him what officials here described as documents concerning the situation in the region. No details were published. Romania is the only Eastern bloc state which maintains diplomatic ties with Israel and a spokesman for Mr. Begin said trade between the two countries was expected to increase following the visit. Israel imported \$51 million worth of goods from Romania in the first 10 months of 1981 and exported products worth \$18 million, industry ministry officials said.

Eitan pleased with Gulf war

TEL AVIV, Jan. 8 (R) — Israel's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Rafael Eitan, was quoted today as saying it was a pleasure to see the Israelis and Iraqis killing each other and it was unlikely the Gulf war would end soon. Interviewed by the afternoon daily Yediot Aharonot, Gen. Eitan was asked whether Iraq and Iran might reach a ceasefire and join forces against Israel. "In theory this could happen but I do not see any sign that would indicate in that direction," Gen. Eitan said. "There have been some mediation attempts but those two sides are so stubborn that it is a pleasure to see them killing each other — let them continue."

Conservative MPs back Golan annexation

TEL AVIV, Jan. 8 (R) — A visiting delegation of pro-Israeli British Conservative members of parliament toured the occupied Golan Heights today and said they supported the recent annexation of the region to Israel. The delegation, representing the "Conservative Friends of Israel" parliamentary group in Britain's ruling party, is here as guests of the Israeli foreign ministry. John Blackburn, a delegation leader, told reporters after the tour that the Golan Heights represented an important strategic asset for Israel. "We utterly support the step taken by the Israeli government," he said. "It was the most important step taken in the political history of Israel and I can say this in the name of many members of the House of Commons." "The surrender of one inch of the Golan Heights will be strategically and physically suicide for the state of Israel."

Qasem, Colombo hold first round of talks

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — The first round of talks between Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem and Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, who is currently on an official visit to Jordan, began at the Foreign Ministry this evening. Mr. Qasem told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the talks dealt with the history of the Palestinian problem and the suffering of the Palestinian people and the Arab World since 1948. Mr. Qasem said that Mr. Colombo told him that Italy is fully committed to the Venice Declaration and hopes that the plan envisaged by the declaration would continue in order to boost the chances of establishing peace based on right and justice in the Middle East.

Brandt Commission seeks ways to aid Third World

KUWAIT, Jan. 8 (R) — The Brandt Commission on world development today sought ways to defuse a Third World debt crisis that could harm the Western World's banking system, commissioners said. High world interest rates diverting money away from productive investment have helped create a critical problem in the poorest countries of the world, they said as the commission began to wind up two days of talks. The Brandt Commission, which is trying to close the economic gap between the rich and poor countries of the world, is meeting to follow up on a summit conference

6 Baha'i leaders reported shot in Iran

LONDON, Jan. 8 (R) — Iranian firing squads have shot six more leaders of the Baha'i religion, according to a Baha'i statement issued in London today which accused Iran's government of trying to root the faith out from its birthplace. The Baha'is form the biggest religious minority in the country whose ruling Shiite clergyman consider it heretical. The statement, issued by the Baha'i national assembly, said the

Sudan closes universities following student protests

KHARTOUM, Jan. 8 (R) — Sudanese universities closed indefinitely today following four days of student demonstrations. The authorities said that the capital's four institutes of higher education were closed "due to recent events which have made the atmosphere unsuitable for study." The demonstrations, broken up by police with the use of tear gas, were sparked by sharp increases in petrol and sugar prices. The capital was quiet yesterday but universities were sealed off and police warned that cars passing nearby might be stoned by angry students. Petrol went up 30 per cent and sugar 60 per cent in a government austerity programme to eliminate

U.S. envoy to Italy says Red Brigades fail

ROME, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — U.S. Ambassador Maxwell M. Rabb said today, the Red Brigades kidnappers of U.S. Brig.-Gen. James L. Dozier have "failed in their objectives." "This event has not altered in the least the closeness of relations between the United States and Italy," the envoy said in remarks prepared for a dedication ceremony at a home for the elderly near Udine in northern Italy. "It has not touched the Western alliance. I have seen no evidence that it has altered in the slightest Italy's traditional practice of liberty and democracy," he said. Mr. Rabb called the Dec. 17 abduction of the 50-year-old general "a cowardly attack by a small group which lacks the courage and the ideological substance to carry its views directly to the Italian people and have them judged democratically." Acting on tips by anonymous callers, police scoured wide areas

two countries. Mr. Colombo arrived in Amman yesterday at the head of a delegation for a four-day official visit to Jordan. In a statement to Petra, Mr. Colombo said that he will have talks with Jordanian officials on strengthening relations between the two countries and the situation in the Middle East in the light of recent developments in the area. Mr. Colombo added that he will discuss the role which Italy could play in supporting the efforts being made to establish peace in the area. Mr. Colombo was met at Amman airport yesterday by Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, the secretary-general of the Foreign Ministry, the governor of Amman, the dean of the diplomatic corps in Jordan, the Italian ambassador and the ambassadors of the European Economic Community (EEC).

of 22 world leaders in Cancun, Mexico, last October. The commissioners said today the world financial situation had worsened considerably in the two years since the group published recommendations for alleviating the plight of the Third World. "The position especially of some less developed countries has become critical and even some middle income developing countries are now having problems repaying their debts," a commissioner said. "The impact on the Western banking system has been greater than we expected when we wrote our report," he added.

six, five men and a woman, were arrested last month and executed on Jan. 1. A woman in whose house they were seized had also been put to death, the statement said. It said revolutionary courts had sentenced them to death without charges and without a trial. The Baha'i statement said: "The Iranian government seems determined to pursue its systematic campaign aimed at the extermination of the Baha'i religious community."

expensive subsidies. Secondary schools were closed last Sunday after pupils rampaged through the streets, setting fire to shops, cars and petrol stations. Khartoum's police commissioner told Radio Omdurman today one demonstrator died and two were injured when police opened fire on crowds on Wednesday. Earlier reports said there had been no casualties. The commissioner, giving the first official account of the disturbances, said police fired in self-defence after demonstrators attacked a police car with stones and petrol-bombs. He said seven policemen were injured.

near Pisa in central Italy for a terrorist hideout where Gen. Dozier might be held. Police also searched boats moored along Lake Garda north of Verona where Gen. Dozier was kidnapped by four men posing as plumbers. In Rome, an inter-cabinet commission on security adopted a series of unspecified anti-terrorism measures. Government officials said the measures would be made public after being presented to the parliament. Yesterday, a NATO spokesman predicted Gen. Dozier's kidnapping will be drawn out, as was the abduction of former premier Aldo Moro. "We're probably facing a long haul," NATO spokesman Col. Luciano Dalcheggio said. He based his comments on a communique found by reporters in Rome and Padua on Wednesday night after anonymous callers told them where to find it.



His Majesty King Hussein meets King Khaled of Saudi Arabia Thursday at the Saudi royal camp (Photo by Zahrah)

Street clashes in Beirut continue despite enforced truce; 14 killed

BEIRUT, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — Drizzly rain helped armoured Syrian peacekeeping units cool four days of street clashes between Lebanese militiamen from pro-Iranian, Communist and pro-Israeli factions that claimed 14 lives and injured 53 people in Beirut a police spokesman reported today. But he said the heavily armed antagonists were still locked in house-to-house combat in two small localities around a mid-city Beirut mosque and warned the ongoing fighting could rekindle widespread hostilities in the seven major residential neighbourhoods where the Syrians enforced a ceasefire. The spokesman, who declined to be named in keeping with government rules, said the localised fighting centred around the mosque of the lower Basta low-income neighbourhood where the three warring factions maintain a string of branch offices. Troops, tanks and armoured cars from the all-Syrian Arab Deterrent Force, a 22,000-man

army that polices Lebanon's civil war armistice, sealed off the embattled localities and prepared to move in to disengage the combatants, the spokesman added. In the adjacent neighbourhoods of Khandak Al Ghamsek, Upper Basta, Zukak Al Balat, Batrakieh, Mar Elias, Hayel Lija and Musaitbeh, hundreds of families cautiously climbed out of basements and bomb shelters as Syrian loudspeakers announced assurances at mid-afternoon that the ceasefire was taking hold. There was an acute shortage of bread and food in the troubled neighbourhoods because bakeries, shops and butcheries remained shuttered for more than two days by the fighting that also cut off drinking water supplies and electric power currents. Hard-pressed inhabitants telephoned appeals for break supplies to friends in adjacent areas. The fighting pitted Amal, a Shiite militia loyal to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's regime in Iran, against the private armies of the pro-Soviet organisation of Communist Action in Lebanon and the Socialist Baath Party.

Saudi peace plan requires modification, PLO aide says

SHARJAH, U.A.E., Jan. 8 (A.P.) — A Palestinian leader said today that the Saudi Arabian eight-point "peace plan" requires "modifications or additions" before it can be adopted as a combined Arab stand. Khaled Al Hassan, member of the Central Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's mainstream group Fateh, did not specify what points or modifications he had in mind. Mr. Al Hassan, whose statement was distributed by the Gulf news agency said the Saudi plan was "better than others." The plan, put forward by the Saudi Crown Prince Fahd on Aug. 7, calls for Israeli withdrawal from Arab territory occupied during the 1967 Middle East war. It also calls for an independent Palestinian state with Arab Jerusalem as its capital. The plan implies an Arab-wide recognition of Israel and Saudi officials have explained that the recognition was consequent on Israeli

withdrawal from occupied Arab areas and its acceptance of the proposed Palestinian statehood. "The Palestinian position (on the plan) will be determined after assessing whether, if approved, it will be treated like previous Arab summit resolutions or be backed by the Arab economic and military capabilities," said Mr. Al Hassan. PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat has praised the Fahd plan as a "good basis" for peace negotiations. But other PLO leaders have openly rejected or insisted on introducing changes into the plan. Syria, Libya, South Yemen, and Algeria also have voiced opposition to the Saudi blueprint. Mr. Al Hassan also called for "balancing" Arab relations with the West by establishing diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union. Mr. Al Hassan said that stronger ties with Moscow would be the response of the Arabs to the strategic cooperation accord between the United States and Israel.

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Discussions during one-day visit centred on closing Arab ranks

King returns after talks with Khaled

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein returned home today at the end of a 24-hour visit to Saudi Arabia. During the visit, the King met with King Khaled of Saudi Arabia and discussed with him the latest developments in the Middle East and means to unify Arab ranks to cope with all challenges. The two monarchs, and top level officials from both countries, held a meeting at the royal camp in the Saudi desert last night. The two sides made a comprehensive assessment of the Arab situation in the light of current developments on the Arab and international levels. They also reviewed means to build effective Arab solidarity to cope with all new developments and to serve the supreme Arab interest. The two sides also discussed bilateral relations and cooperation in the various fields for the benefit of the two fraternal countries. The meeting was attended from the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Chief of the Hashemite Royal Court Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Amer Khamash, and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Lt. Gen. Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. On the Saudi side the meeting was attended by the Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the Saudi National Guard Prince Abdullah Ibn Abdul Aziz, Defence Minister Prince Sultan Ibn Abdul Aziz, and the Saudi Ambassador to Jordan Sheikh Ibrahim Al Sultan. The King had received earlier Saudi Foreign

Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal. The King and the accompanying delegation left Riyadh this morning for Medina. They were seen off by King Khaled, Prince Abdullah, Prince Sultan and high-ranking Saudi officials. In Medina, the King and the accompanying delegation visited the holy Mosque and Prophet Muhammad's tomb and read prayers there. They also visited the tombs of the first two caliphs—Abu Bakr and Umar. The King was received and seen off at Medina by Governor of Medina Prince Abdul Muhsin Ibn Abdul Aziz and senior officials at the city. On his arrival at Amman Airport, the King and the Jordanian delegation were met by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the speaker of the Upper House of Parliament, the president of the National Consultative Council, the ministers and senior civilian and military officials. Upon departure from Saudi Arabia, the King sent a cable to King Khaled thanking the Saudi monarch for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to him and to his delegation during their visit to Saudi Arabia. The King said in his cable that the visit was an opportunity to exchange views and consultations for the benefit of the Arab Nation, and for the sake of sincere and constructive joint Arab action and solidarity. The King wished in the cable health and happiness for King Khaled and progress and prosperity for the fraternal Saudi people.

Iraq resumes pumping oil through fixed pipeline

BEIRUT, Jan. 8 (R) — A vital pipeline carrying Iraqi oil to the Lebanese port of Tripoli reopened today, five days after being blown up by unidentified saboteurs, a Lebanese oil official said. Walid Mawlawi, director of oil installations in Tripoli, told Reuters by telephone that engineers had successfully tested the repaired section of pipe this morning and pumping of Iraqi crude to Tripoli had resumed. A separate explosion yesterday in Turkey closed a pipeline carrying Iraqi oil to the Turkish coast. Authorities in Ankara said the pipeline to Yumurtalik was being repaired but there was still no indication whether the blast was an accident or sabotage. Pipelines to the Mediterranean

through Turkey, Syria and Lebanon have been Iraq's only means of exporting oil since late 1980, when its main terminals on the Gulf were closed by war with Iran. There are two networks, one to Yumurtalik in Turkey and the other to Banias in Syria with a spur to Tripoli. The Tripoli branch had been operating only 10 days when it was blown up. It had been out of action for five years because of factional fighting in Lebanon and disputes between Syria and Iraq over transit dues. When the pipeline was sabotaged, Mr. Mawlawi said there were 735,000 barrels of Iraqi crude oil stored in tanks at Tripoli but none of this would be exported until pumping from Iraq resumed.

Volunteers aid Iraq in war

BEIRUT, Jan. 8 (R) — Volunteers from seven Arab countries today headed for the Gulf war front as part of Iraq's Popular Army, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

It said the fighters came from Egypt, Syria, Sudan, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, in addition to Palestinian, Eritrean and Iraqi volunteers. It did not say how many men were involved.

Government declares Poland free of strikes

VIENNA, Jan. 8 (R) — Poland's military rulers said today the country was free of strikes for the first time for 18 months but accused farmers of hoarding urgently-needed grain. Warsaw Radio said the government was also preparing to give high priority to cracking down on the black market which has flourished because of shortages. The official news agency PAP reported that medical schools would reopen on Jan. 18 and added that universities would also resume soon but set no date. In a slight relaxation of martial law restrictions, the authorities restored telephone lines in provincial capitals for the first time since the emergency began on Dec. 13. But they warned that censors would be allowed to break into subversive calls and it was not clear whether Warsaw was also getting its phones back. In Brussels, diplomatic sources said Western countries had given up the idea of calling a special meeting of the 35 countries which signed the Helsinki pact to discuss the Polish crisis. The attitude of Non-aligned and neutral states to the proposal had been cool, they explained. PAP said Deputy Interior Minister Boguslaw Stachura yesterday gave a parliamentary committee the government's fullest account yet of its measures against the Solidarity free trade union. Mr. Stachura said military rule, the arrest of thousands of trade unionists and dissidents and the smashing of protest strikes had put the country on the road to recovery. There were no strikes anywhere in Poland for the first time since July 1980, he added. The minister said nine strikers had died in clashes with security forces since martial law and that 5,067 people were detained. He denied allegations by dissidents that internees had been ill-treated and said "society sighed with relief" when the army ended Solidarity's challenge to communist rule. The union, in a message received in the West last night, denied

government claims that the two sides were involved in negotiations on a solution to the crisis. "The union authorities have not empowered, nor will they allow, any of their members remaining at liberty to conduct such talks," it said. Although Mr. Stachura said the government was encountering practically no opposition, he said it would be wrong to think that "anti-socialist forces have been completely defeated and are no longer dangerous." The government intended to apply martial law with full rigour, he said. Warsaw Radio said that farmers were selling only 300 tonnes of grain a day, far short of the country's needs, in the hope of better profits from price reforms. The radio said the government would begin a drive against black marketeering next week. The Polish Communist newspaper Trybuna Ludu called for a swift purge of the party to weed out "political and ideological outsiders, careerists and cynical gamblers." The existence of a drive against unreliable members of the party had previously been reported by diplomats but the Trybuna Ludu article was the first official reference to it. Trybuna Ludu quoted politburo member Alwin Siwak as saying that martial law did not mean the party was relinquishing its responsibilities to the nation. "It is the nation's property and the mightiest weapon of the working class," he said. Despite severe weather, the authorities said shipyards at Gdansk and Gdynia, both Solidarity strongholds, were working normally although they were suffering steel shortages. Dockers were clearing harbour installations so that they could resume loading ships. As further evidence that the economy was beginning to accelerate, PAP said Polish coal exports were expected to rise to 18 million tonnes this year compared with 15 million in 1981.

Proposed law to regulate insurance business

By Samira Kaver
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 8 — Local insurance companies will be required to increase their paid up capital to a minimum of JD 1.5 million in compliance with the Control of Insurance draft law which will soon be enacted.

Mr. Radi Ibrahim, director of the insurance department at the Ministry of Trade and Industry told the Jordan Times that under

the present law, insurance companies are required to have a capital of no less than JD 100,000. The increase to JD 1.5 million specified by the proposed law has several aims, said Mr. Ibrahim, the most important of which is to provide more insurance security for the insured and to increase general insurance guarantees.

Another reason behind requiring insurance companies raise their capital is to enhance the confidence of reinsurers in the local insurance market, thus creating

the opportunity for reinsurance agreements that will be more advantageous to local companies.

Another objective is the channelling of the generated capital towards financing new developmental projects in Jordan, Mr. Ibrahim said. Moreover, the required increases in the capital of insurance companies will enable them to increase their local reserves and hence, to part with smaller shares of the premiums which they collect.

As for foreign insurance com-

panies operating in Jordan, Mr. Ibrahim pointed out that when the insurance draft law is enacted, these companies will have to increase the sums that they are required to deposit in the name of the minister of trade and industry as guarantees toward the fulfilment of their obligations. The draft law requires that foreign companies increase their deposits for general insurance branches from JD 200,000 under the present law to JD 450,000, while deposits for life insurance will go up from JD

20,000 to JD 200,000. Mr. Ibrahim described these increases as "a vitally important factor" in guaranteeing the rights of the insured and added that such a measure would lead to an increase in investments in bonds and shares on the local stock exchange.

The draft law was prepared by the Ministry of Trade and Industry and has been submitted to the legislative office of the Prime Ministry for the final touches to be added. Once it is enacted, it will replace the present Control of

Insurance Law which came into effect in 1965. The draft law will update control of insurance activities in Jordan and raise its standards to the level of modern Arab and international insurance legislation, Mr. Ibrahim said.

Mr. Ibrahim added that the proposed law deals with the control of compulsory insurance and specifies its conditions and provisions with the purpose of formulating a unified insurance document, particularly with regard to the insurance of vehicles against civil liability.

The draft law deals with matters that are not adequately provided for by the present law, Mr. Ibrahim said. One of these matters is the regulation of activities related to insurance, such as the work done by insurance brokers, agents and survivors. The draft law also specifies the ways in which the transfer of insurance funds abroad must take place. It requires that insurance contracts be carefully studied and approved by the competent authorities before they become valid, to avoid the inclusion of arbitrary conditions which violate the Control of Insurance Law and other Jordanian laws.

Mr. Ibrahim stressed that special pains were taken during the formulation of the draft law to clearly specify the technical reserves that should be set aside by ins-

urance companies and the manner in which these reserves should be determined.

Mr. Ibrahim said that there are 22 local insurance companies and 13 foreign insurance companies operating in Jordan, all of which will be given a two-year period of grace as of the date of the enactment of the proposed law to make the necessary changes prescribed by the law.

He predicted that companies that are unable to fulfil the new requirements will have two courses open to them: They can either merge with other insurance companies to form new companies that comply with the requirements of the new law, or they can simply go out of the market.

Mr. Ibrahim said that the Jordanian market was already oversaturated with insurance companies. Premiums collected in 1980 had not topped JD 15 million — a sum far too meagre to compare favourably with the number of insurance companies in Jordan, which Mr. Ibrahim put at 35.

To alleviate this situation, the Prime Ministry issued a decree prohibiting the licensing of new Jordanian and foreign insurance companies as of January 8, 1981.

Mr. Ibrahim predicted that the draft law will redress the balance between the number of insurance companies and the premiums which they collect and will serve to raise the standards of the insurance industry in Jordan.

Jordanian musicians band together

By Josephine Mushahwar
Special to the Jordan Times

MUSICIANS, like all other artists, require a special atmosphere where they can best utilise their talents to produce good music," says Mr. Amer Madi, president of the Jordanian Musicians Association (JMA).

(Established in February 1980, the aims of the Association are as follows:

To support, sponsor and activate musical movement in Jordan.

To expand and develop the principle of Jordanian music by

emphasising its distinctive characteristics.

To cultivate musical awareness among the people by holding seminars, giving concerts and publishing special bulletins.

To create a "brotherly" environment or "back bone" for the musicians.

Mr. Madi maintains that musicians need to communicate on an intellectual level, for although talented people are a rarity, all 46 JMA members have degrees in music.

"There is not a large scope of work for musicians in Jordan. They either teach, broadcast or work outside their field. With the

presence of the association, they have the chance to communicate artist to artist, not teacher to student or employee to employer," Mr. Madi says.

The first board of directors was formed in 1981. The seven member board is chaired by Mr. Madi.

Mr. Madi told the Jordan Times that when the association was first established, they had the approval and support of Minister of Culture and Youth, Ma'an Abu Nowar.

"Thus we started to contact the musicians in the country and the enthusiasm was evident in every one of them. The Ministry of Culture and Youth was behind us in every step."

Funding comes from donations.

membership fees (JD 12) and financial support from the Ministry. "We are allocated an annual sum of JD 4,500 from the ministry, and they encourage all our plans. We have now established a legal status in the country, acknowledged by everyone."

The association is an active member in the Federation of Arab Musicians based in Baghdad.

Until now, the association has held small concerts to raise funds.

Their first major event will take place on Jan. 22, when a music festival will be held in the Palace of Culture.

Six local groups will be featured: The Knights, Survivors, The Roots, The Buds, The Mur-

ashahat an oriental music group organised by the association and a chamber music group. Each group will play for 25 minutes, 10 minutes of which will be local, orchestrated themes on Jordanian music, and the other 15 minutes will involve various songs and music.

"This major activity will be under the patronage of Mr. Abu Nowar, because the Ministry of Culture and Youth is sponsoring the National Culture and Arts Year in Jordan," Mr. Madi said.

The members of the association are all Jordanian. They are required to have at least three years in higher music education, or to have practised publicly for five years.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibitions

- Paintings by Ammar Khamash, at the Alia Art Gallery.
- International Slide Show, at the Soviet Cultural Centre.
- Islamic Book Exhibition at the Arab Community College, opposite the University of Jordan Hospital.
- Paintings by Mohammad Wafa Sinnu, at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.

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NATIONAL

Disabled Lebanese exhibits his paintings

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (J.T.) — On the occasion of the end of the International Year of Disabled Persons, Her Majesty Queen Noor opened yesterday an exhibition of paintings by disabled Lebanese artist Mohammad Wafa Simnu at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts.

During the five-day exhibition, 36 watercolour and oil paintings are on display. Subjects include Oriental motifs, landscapes, flowers and old markets.

Mr. Simnu was working as an insurance company manager eleven years ago when he became partially paralysed. Having lost much of his power of movement and speech, he spent five years doing nothing. However, determined to overcome his disability he decided to become an artist, and started painting. He has applied himself to this vocation, using only one hand, six years.

Mr. Simnu told the Jordan

Times that it was suffering which made him an artist and defined his career. "I could not longer endure physical pain and the feeling of physical death while something inside me was still alive," he said.

Mr. Simnu said he had organised his first art exhibition in 1979. The 55 paintings exhibited at that time were all sold, he said. He organised another exhibition, of 80 paintings, in the same year, and was granted a medal by the Lebanese education minister.

"I do not decide what to draw or the colour I should use," he said. "It is my imagination which does all this. Sometimes I draw natural scenery, and sometimes I draw a marketplace, or people's faces, without having any pre-conceptions."

"When I start work on a painting, I do not leave it before finishing it completely — regardless of how long it takes," Mr. Simnu said.



French Ambassador to Jordan Jacques-Alain de Sedouy

New French envoy arrives

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (J.T.) — The new French ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Jacques-Alain Le Chartier de Sedouy, arrived in Amman on Wednesday.

Mr. de Sedouy, according to a French embassy release, was born in Paris in 1935. He graduated from the National School of Administration with a law degree, and also holds a degree from the Institute of Political Studies.

Mr. de Sedouy joined the foreign service in 1962. He worked at the European department of the foreign ministry until 1966. In 1966 he was appointed first secretary at the French embassy in Moscow, and stayed in the post until 1968, when he returned to the ministry's headquarters to serve at the economic affairs department until 1972.

Mr. de Sedouy was appointed counsellor at the foreign ministry in 1968. In 1972 he became director of negotiations and agreements at Societe Azote et Produits chimiques, and then director of Mr. Claude Cheysson's office at the Commission of the European Community in Brussels from 1973 until 1976. He served as first counsellor at the French embassy in Tehran from 1976 until 1978.

Before being appointed ambassador to Jordan, Mr. de Sedouy served as chief of the economic and financial affairs department at the foreign ministry, and a lecturer at the Political Studies Institute and the National School of Administration. He is a knight of the National Order of Merit.

Mr. de Sedouy is married with four children. He is particularly interested in history and archaeology. Among his hobbies are tennis, golf and skiing.

Zarqa events mark Prophet's birthday

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — Under-Secretary of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Izzeddin Al Khatib opened in Zarqa yesterday several new mosques on the anniversary of Prophet Mohammad's birthday.

Mr. Khatib said the celebrations marking the Prophet's birthday constitute "a link between the past and the present" of the Muslims, and are an inspiration for them to "act with courage" in supporting supreme ideals and principles.

He added that the Prophet Mohammad should be the ideal of the Muslims as they hold sacred the values of good, right, justice, freedom and equality. He called for the unification of ranks to fight the enemies of Islam, and urged an end to sectarian and regional differences, which are weakening Muslim society.

Mr. Khatib also called for the liberation of the Islamic holy places and action to stop the Zionists from tampering with them. He said jihad (holy war) is the duty of every Muslim in case any part of the Islamic World is lost.

Mr. Khatib opened the Imam Bukhari Mosque in Zarqa. The mosque, which cost JD 80,000 to build, can house 1,000 worshippers. He also opened the Abdullah Ibn Omar Mosque in Zarqa's Kassarat quarter. The JD 50,000 mosque can house 500 worshippers. He also opened Al Hashemiyah Mosque, which cost some JD 30,000. It can house 500 worshippers.

Mr. Khatib also visited Al Arab Mosque, to which the Zarqa Awqaf Directorate has made some additions — including a library and a Koran teaching hall — at a cost of JD 12,000. He also visited the Yunis Mosque, where Zarqa Awqaf Directorate has also carried out some expansion, at a cost of JD 20,000. The work included building a Koran study hall and a suite for women.

At Abu Q'ud mosque in Zarqa, Mr. Khatib attended the graduation of the ninth and 10th



Under-Secretary of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Izzeddin Al Khatib opened new mosques...

groups of Koran students at the mosque. The ceremony included the singing of religious songs and recitation from the Koran.

Speaking at the ceremony, Mr. Khatib asserted the significance of the role of the Koran and called

for establishing more mosques in the countryside and the villages.

He said interest in the role of the Koran means interest in the Islamic mission. It also means that the Muslims realise the nobility of

Islamic doctrine, he said.

Mr. Khatib also asserted that the young generation must realise the Islamic doctrine in the modern world.



...and heard recitation of the Koran by graduating students, during a visit to Zarqa Thursday (Petra photos)

Majali returns from Gulf university chiefs' seminar

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali returned to Amman yesterday after participating in the first intellectual symposium of the presidents and directors of Arabian Gulf universities, held recently in Bahrain.

Dr. Majali said several working papers were submitted to the

symposium. They dealt with the role of universities in development, and scientific and applied research, he said.

During the symposium, Dr. Majali presented a review in this connection based on Jordan's experience in university education. He pointed out that the consumer and the producer are partners in planning and implementation.

Dr. Majali also explained the University of Jordan's experiment with participation in decision-making through the board of trustees and the university's administrative board. The University of Jordan's trustees, at their last meeting, took a pioneering step by appointing university graduates to the administrative board.



NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Joint panel meets today

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (J.T.) — The joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting the Statehood of the Inhabitants of the Occupied Arab Territories will begin a meeting in Amman on Saturday. Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Hassan Ibrahim will head the Jordanian side at the meeting, and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Executive Committee member and Department of Occupied Homeland Affairs Director Hamed Abu Sitta will head the Palestinian side. The Palestinian side, under Mr. Abu Sitta, arrived in Amman yesterday. It includes Fatah Movement Central Committee Member Khalil Al Wazir, and PLO Executive Committee members Abdul Rahim Ahmad and Hanna Naser.

N. Yemeni due soon

SANAA, Jan. 8 (J.T.) — Arab Republic of Yemen President and Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Col. Ali Abdullah Saleh will visit Jordan soon in the course of a tour which will also take him to five Arabian Gulf states and Iraq. The Yemeni News Agency Saba has explained that the tour follows up visits which President Saleh made to several Arab and European countries last October.

JLA prepares bibliography

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — The Jordan Library Association (JLA) has begun to collect publications published in Jordan during 1981 in preparation for the issuance of a national bibliography. A JLA statement said the bibliography represents the annual record of Jordanian intellectual production. The association has asked Arab and foreign institutions, and citizens, to supply it with copies of, or bibliographic information about, publications, supplying data such as the name of the author, his address and the topic he wrote about. The JLA wants to receive the information before the end of this month.

Team off to youth meeting

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (Petra) — The Jordanian delegation to the meetings of the executive bureau of Arab youth and sports ministers, under Culture and Youth Minister Mar'an Abu Nowar, left Amman for Tunis yesterday. The Jordanian delegation will submit a working paper to the conference. During its two-day meeting, the conference will discuss several topics and reports related to the meetings of the youth committee meetings and the amendment of the bylaws of the youth fund.

FJCC council approves recommended measures

AMMAN, Jan. 8 (J.T.) — The executive council of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC) held a regular session at the Amman Chamber of Commerce under FJCC Chairman Mohammad Ali Budeir yesterday. It approved the attendance of the 55th session of the council of the federation of Arab chambers of commerce, which will be held on Jan. 18.

The council also approved the publication of a comprehensive trade directory for Jordan, and decided to invite the Islamic chamber of commerce and industry to attend the two meetings of the executive committee and the general assembly of Arab chambers of commerce, which will be held in Morocco next month.

It also decided to participate in the Milan international fair, during which the Arab-Italian chamber of commerce will distribute publications on the economies of the Arab countries. It also approved attendance at a meeting of the provisional administrative committee of the Arab-Greek chamber of commerce and development, which will be held in Athens on Jan. 31.

In light of the recommendations made by the advisory committee on prices and wages, the council decided to circulate these recommendations to all chambers of commerce in the country, after obtaining the approval of the prime minister.

The council also decided to request the federation's bureau to prepare a memorandum affirming the significance of the free enterprise system in Jordan, as well as the significance of the private sector to the national economy and honest, fair competition, in trade.

The FJCC council also decided to prepare a memo to the minister of finance and customs and the minister of transport suggesting the establishment of a duty-free zone for automobile sales in the city of Ramtha. It decided to respond to the invitation of the Maltese ministry of commerce, for a visit Malta in May or June.

Today's Weather

It will be cold and windy with a chance of rain. Winds will be northerly fresh, gusting at times. In Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy with southerly moderate winds and rough seas.

	Overnight low	Daytime high
Amman	4	6
Aqaba	9	17
Deserts	4	9
Jordan Valley	9	15

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 12, Aqaba 21. Humidity readings: Amman 72 per cent, Aqaba 33 per cent.

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1. Agents or representatives of qualified companies may obtain a copy of the requirements and specifications from:

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Telecommunications Corporation
3rd Circle
Jabal Amman

Against a non-refundable payment of JD 20.

2. The latest date for submission of bids to the above address is 1400 hours, local time, Sunday, Feb. 21, 1982.

3. Bids should be submitted in 3 separately bound copies, each enclosed in a separate envelope and suitably sealed.

4. A bid bond of five per cent of the total offer amount, to be issued from a known bank in Jordan, should be submitted with the offer.

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Director General

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Jordan Times

An Independent Arab cultural daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Sickening

THE UNITED STATES closed the last year on a note of unusually flagrant double standards, and we would very much appreciate some more information from the American government on the matter. On Thursday, December 31, 1981, an American federal court judge deported to the Republic of Ireland a certain Desmond Mackin, whose extradition to Great Britain had been sought by the British government. He was accused by Britain of shooting a soldier in Northern Ireland in 1978. The American court system decided that he should not be extradited to Great Britain, but that he should simply be deported to the Republic of Ireland, where he is a free man, because the crime of which he was accused was of "political nature".

Only a few weeks ago, the same American judicial system had decided that a certain Palestinian youth named Ziad Abu 'Ein should be extradited to Israel to face trial on charges that he had taken part in a bombing incident in Tiberias several years ago. That extradition decision was challenged by lawyers for Mr. Abu 'Ein on the grounds that the crime he was charged with was also of a political nature. But then Deputy Secretary of State William Clark decided that the extradition of Ziad Abu 'Ein should take place, and Mr. Abu 'Ein now sits in an Israeli jail awaiting trial.

The contrast between these two cases is little short of sickening. The conclusion that we draw and that is shared by Arab-Americans in the United States is that two standards of justice prevail in the United States — one for Arabs and another for the rest of the world. The case of Desmond Mackin reasserts the validity of the "political nature" argument in American courts, as it reasserts to us the reality that Israel's ability to influence decisions of various branches and levels of the American system of government remains vibrant and overwhelming. Ziad Abu 'Ein is not alone in his Israeli jail. With him is the American system of justice. It sort of makes you want to throw up.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

King Hussein's visit

AL RA'I: The visit which His Majesty King Hussein made to Saudi Arabia and the talks which he had with King Khaled and senior Saudi officials are a continuation of the Jordanian efforts which are still being made to build Arab solidarity. Arab solidarity is the basis of unified Arab action and the springboard for building Arab strength.

Evidently, the comprehensive assessment of the Arab situation which took place during the talks in light of the current circumstances on the Arab and international levels was aimed at crystallising a joint visualisation of the steps which should be taken to cope with the new developments and to serve the supreme Arab interest, particularly that these developments are taking place quickly and necessarily require a unified Arab action enabling the Arabs to rise to the level of challenges.

Needless to say, the Pan-Arab commitment remains the basis of unified Arab action. This commitment is inseparable. Pan-Arab commitment towards the Arabism of Jerusalem and the Palestinian rights should be the same as the Pan-Arab commitment towards Shant Al Arab and Iraq's rights in its territories and waterways as well as the same towards the Golan Heights. Violation of the Pan-Arab commitment on any Arab front is a painful blow to this overall commitment.

It is time for the Arabs to achieve the unity of the Pan-Arab commitment if they are serious in defending their existence and containing the onslaught against their Lands and future. In light of this fact, it is necessary to confront the aggressive onslaught against Jerusalem and the Palestinian lands, Shant Al Arab and the Golan Heights.

To work for the achievement of the unity of the Pan-Arab commitment and the unity of confronting the aggressive onslaught wherever it might be is an essential matter if the Fez summit, when resumed, is destined to succeed in dealing with the major issues it should deal with.

We are certain that the wisdom of King Hussein and that of King Khaled in their assessment of the Arab situation and their serious endeavour to reach a unified Arab stand will open new horizons to achieve the unity of the Pan-Arab commitment in the Arab World since this is the basis of Arab solidarity which is indispensable for the Arabs.

Building strength

AL DUSTOUR: Yesterday, His Majesty King Hussein began important talks with King Khaled and Saudi officials to strengthen and reinforce Arab solidarity, particularly after all Arab states realised that in the absence of Arab solidarity, they cannot cope with the challenges they are facing, particularly the Israeli challenge.

Although consultations and the exchange of views between Jordan and Saudi Arabia have never stopped in view of the close relations between the two countries, King Hussein's visit to Riyadh under these circumstances in particular is of a special significance because of the delicacy of the phase which the Arab Nation is passing through and because the Arab World is now witnessing a positive initiative aimed at overcoming the phase of weakness and division—an initiative which Jordan and Saudi Arabia have an important and effective role in making it succeed.

Israel is ruining economy in Gaza

The 500,000 inhabitants of the occupied Gaza Strip are reportedly facing a very serious situation because of a permanent threat to their livelihood, which if allowed to continue, would undoubtedly cause a national disaster.

Reports from Gaza say that the inhabitants used to plant more than one third of a million dunums of land with citrus trees, producing altogether some 250,000 tonnes of the fruit annually. The production has now dropped to 200,000 tonnes annually due to the increasing expenses and the Israeli occupation authorities' harassment of the Strip's farmers impeding their marketing of the crop which is the main source of revenue to the occupied Strip.

Furthermore, the Israelis, in their drive to starve the inhabitants and evacuate the land from its owners are reportedly reducing the amount of water used for irrigation, imposing heavy fines on the orchards' owners if they pump water from their own artesian wells in excess of the normal amount, and prohibiting the inhabitants from planting more trees in their land.

The Gaza Strip inhabitants reportedly demand no financial help from Arab States to strengthen their steadfastness. "We want the

Arab countries to buy our citrus crops so that we can protect our national wealth and thus bolster our steadfastness in the face of Zionist plans, designed to drive the inhabitants away", the Gazans say.

The dangerous thing about the situation lies in the fact that small farmers have lately resorted to destroying their citrus trees, reports say.

In view of the deteriorating situation, the Gaza Strip inhabitants have appealed to His Majesty King Hussein to try to persuade Arab states to purchase their citrus crops.

A petition sent to His Majesty by citrus farmers explained that the Gaza inhabitants are facing a dangerous situation because the citrus fruit constitutes the backbone of the economy in the densely-populated Gaza Strip which lacks any other sources of revenue. The memo explained in detail the various types of harassment exercised against the inhabitants by the Israeli authorities, the purpose of which is to evict the people from their homeland.

The Israelis are imposing additional taxes amounting to JD 3000 a year on merchants, doctors, lawyers and pharmacists, and are reducing the amount of water

needed to irrigate citrus fields, the memo said.

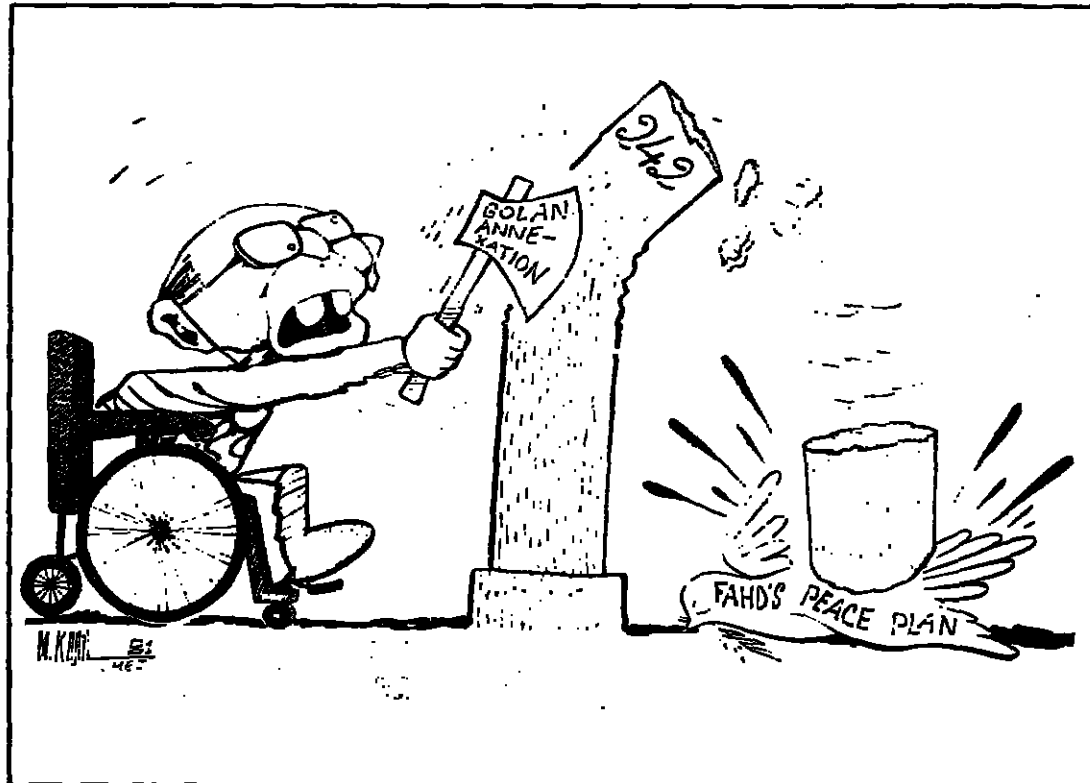
It also pointed out the fact that Western European markets are closed to the Strip's crops due to an Israeli ban. Israel, it said, is monopolising the whole Western European markets.

Eastern European countries which used to purchase one quarter of the Gaza Strip's crops have now stopped buying anything because they can no longer afford to do so and want to conduct transactions by barter-offering their own products in exchange.

Of course, this is not acceptable to the Gaza citrus merchants since they are forced to get cash money for their product to pay the heavy taxes imposed by the Israeli authorities, the memo said.

It pointed out the fact that Arab markets are capable of absorbing the Gaza Strip's citrus products but regrettably these markets are now open to foreign products on the pretext of allowing free trade.

As a result of the Israeli harassment, the memo said the area of land planted with citrus trees has now shrunk from 75,000 dunums to 65,000 dunums. The memo expressed hope that His Majesty King Hussein will help Gazans in their struggle and support their steadfastness.



The British presidency

By John Wyles

While Britain has held the Presidency of the European Common Market hardly any of the Community's main objectives have been achieved. Why is it then that Lord Carrington leaves the job in an atmosphere of good cheer and congratulations?

"The British presidency gets things done," was the slogan cheerfully offered by a British official a few weeks ago after an unusually decisive meeting of the EEC's Council of Ministers. There has been no attempt to revive it recently lest it be ranked with "peace in our time" as one of the more inappropriate utterances of the last 50 years.

Judged by the modest list of objectives which Lord Carrington set before the European parliament in July, Britain's term in the Council of Ministers presidency has hardly been a glittering success. Reform of Community agriculture and the budget... no agreement, a new insurance directive... no agreement, a common fisheries policy... no agreement, moves to open up air-line competition... barely started. The checklist could be much longer, but this is the season of goodwill and there we will leave it.

How then can Lord Carrington pass on the presidency to his Belgian counterpart firmly convinced that as presidencies go, Britain's has been a superior one. More remarkably, why is it that most other member states would agree with him?

Largely because governments know that many of the objectives which each new presidency is obliged to declare for itself are merely priorities. Each Council president inherits a host of ongoing issues and selects from the bran tub a number which he will try to push forward.

Unfortunately, the Community's decision-making machinery does not work in six month cycles so a presidency is judged as much by improved prospects for agreement as by the number of agreements secured.

It is also judged by the efficiency with which Council business is conducted and by the personal stamp which its leading officials and politicians bring to the task of chairing meetings and organising debate.

Analysing debate.

Taking the second point first, it is universally acknowledged that the British have given the Community a first class demonstration of chairmanship. The top medals here are awarded to Lord Carrington for his conduct of the foreign affairs councils and to Sir Michael Butler, the UK's permanent representative, for his management of Coreper, the committee of ambassadors, one of the Community's most important and least publicised negotiating bodies.

With skill, determination and a bullying insistence that meetings must start on time, these two men and their counterparts in other councils and bureaucratic committees have created a sense that the machinery has been working as well as it possibly can.

As a result, the prospects for agreement on a range of issues have been enhanced and none more so than the crucially important "mandate" questions. As Lord Carrington acknowledged to the European Parliament, he is disappointed that the Ten have not yet managed to agree guidelines for farm policy reform and new arrangements for limiting Britain's payments to the EEC budget.

But agreement may now be only a few weeks away on these basic issues touching fundamental national interests, and the British Government may well have built up more political capital than has realised by the way in which it has managed the negotiations.

"I have been really surprised and impressed by the even-handed approach," said one ambassador, referring to the fact that Lord Carrington and Mrs. Thatcher have been seen to give equal priority to agreement on all mandate questions and have not sought to concentrate on the British budget issue.

Ironically, agreement is now very much closer on everything except the British budget problem. But the widespread respect for Britain's presidential handling of the negotiations appears to have produced a desire in most other member states to avoid embarrassing Lord Carrington by proclaiming that the U.K. is again standing in the way of the Community's future development.

This is a very important gain

which suggests that the U.K. presidency may have encouraged subtle changes in the way in which Britain's approach to EEC membership (usually misleadingly characterised as indifferent and narrowly self-interested) is seen in other EEC capitals. The deliberate courtship of the European Parliament, demonstrated by Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, has been another useful piece of image-building.

Lord Carrington has personally earned a lot of the credit given the British presidency. Most of the time he has managed to mask his distaste for many of the detailed technicalities he has had to deal with as Council president.

He has been less successful in hiding his preference for political co-operation, and his apparent conviction that this is really what British membership of the Community is largely about.

The London Report, adopted by the ten foreign ministers in October, was high on his list of priorities since it is a useful move towards making EEC political co-operation more effective. But the Community's capacity for speaking with rather different voices on some issues, recently exemplified by France's M. Claude Cheysson, shows the need for still tighter co-ordination on major foreign policy questions.

Unfortunately for Lord Carrington, and through no fault of the Community, two EEC initiatives with which he was closely identified have run into the sand during the British presidency.

1. The Middle East policy now needs seriously rethinking in the light of developments in the area, particularly Saudi Arabia's failure to rally Arab opinion behind moves towards recognition of Israel's right to exist.

2. The EEC's proposal for an Afghanistan peace conference, taken to Moscow by the foreign secretaries in July, lies forlornly on the table because the Russians will not pick it up.

A presidency's failures are quickly forgotten in the Community and its successes not always accurately remembered. The British presidency leaves a satisfactory, and not a sour aftertaste, and for that everyone is thankful.

— Financial Times news feature

Israel directly involved in the Iran-Iraq war

By Tareq Masarweh

Washington has admitted that the U.S.-made F-15 Israeli planes had overflown the south-eastern Iraqi borders twice within one week. Washington, if it wishes, gains intelligence of all that goes on in the region as long as its rented AWACS are flying over the Arabian gulf from north to south. But what Washington does not want to admit is the extent of Israel's involvement in the Iraqi-Iranian war. Information indicates that Israel is about to become directly involved in this war. In addition to shipments of spare parts and ammunition, Speaker of the Iranian parliament Rafsanjani admits that the Israeli involvement will be proportionate to the size of the \$450 million given to Israel by pre-revolution Iran.

Israel had been directly involved in the war which the Shah's Iran launched against Iraq from 1961 to 1974 which was known as the Barzani mutiny. Six months ago, Menachem Begin admitted in the Knesset that Israel had been supporting Barzani by providing him with money, information and weapons via Iran. The Barzani mutiny had hardened (by the Algiers agreement) when Iran waged war against Iraq. The strange thing is that Mustafa Barzani's sons have been brought from the United States to Tehran and to some Arab capitals to be used against "Saddam Hussein's regime" in Iraq. The Barzani family now epitomises the racist-Zionist-imperialist conspiracy against the Arabs.

The Israeli planes could not have been over the Iraqi area of Umm Al Nu'am twice in a week

because they were picking up having discovered the way to attack the Iraqi nuclear reactor. These planes have had duties which our limited information prevents us from analysing. But these duties are certain to be related to the war raging in the gulf region. The Zionist entity would not like anything better than to see a situation similar to Palestine emerging in Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates or Qatar for instance. Had it been for Iraq, who else could have prevented the invasion of the gulf? Who could have prevented the gulf from regaining its old name of the Persian Gulf?

We will get to know — maybe too late as usual — that Israel is a party to this war and that the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance has not been frozen or abrogated but that it is actually being implemented.

Pope fails to unite Catholics in Holland

By Richard Murphy

Almost two years after a special Synod called by Pope John Paul to try to heal a long-standing rift between conservative and radical Dutch bishops, the Dutch Catholic Church was as divided as ever.

And a recent report by a Catholic research institute indicating that ordinations to the priesthood, conversions to Catholicism and regular church attendance are all falling dramatically, has given the bishops an additional headache.

Liberal churchmen say the Church is healthier at grass roots level than has ever been and argue that the real problem is a widening gap between ordinary Catholics who number 5.6 million or 39.5 per cent of the total population and the Dutch hierarchy.

Father Ben Vredenburg, chairman of a national Catholic council dealing with student welfare and close associate of Professor Edward Schillebeeckx, the progressive Dutch theologian who has been under criticism from the Vatican said.

The bishops have become so concerned with their own problems and relations with the Vatican that they have lost touch with their own people.

Traditionalists, however, regard the innovations in theology and religious practice in which the Netherlands has been to the fore as the work of a narrow elite of intellectuals who have themselves lost touch with ordinary Catholics.

They believe this elite has introduced democratic ideas and practices which are alien to the true spirit of Catholicism and want to see the Church hierarchy and the Pope restored to their place as the ultimate arbiters on matters of doctrine.

Dutch Primate Cardinal Jan Willebrands admitted earlier this year that hopes of unity among his six fellow bishops had not been fulfilled following the synod and old conflicts had resurfaced.

The synod, held in the Vatican in January 1980 under the close supervision of the Pope, followed open disagreement between two conservative bishops appointed by Pope Paul VI and four of their colleagues widely classified as moderately liberal.

It ended by reaffirming traditional doctrine and ordering a slowing down of progressive experiments in the Netherlands dating from the mid-1960s.

Such experiments resulted in married priests being accepted in

many parishes and teaching in theological seminaries, and in Catholic priests conducting joint communion services with priests of other religions.

Both practices are strongly disapproved of by the Vatican. The synod called on the bishops to cooperate with one another, to "abstain from declarations harmful to another bishop" and to keep a proper eye on religious teaching and the ecumenical movement, which aims to unite all Christian churches.

Priests were told to remain celibate, to obey their bishops and not to form their own trade union.

"The synod was a clear message from Rome that it wanted to put a stop to the liberalisation that swept through the Church after the second Vatican council," according to one Dutch religious commentator.

He believes the Pope chose a synod of Dutch bishops for the counter-attack against a worldwide trend because the Dutch were in the front line of innovation.

"And in the Netherlands the progressives have virtually given up the fight," he says. However, several churchmen do not agree.

They say that the process of democratisation and liberalisation is continuing among ordinary Catholics, for whom high-level disputes within the hierarchy are becoming increasingly irrelevant.

"If we have stopped responding in public to the ideological warfare of the bishops, it's because the Church is functioning perfectly well among the people themselves and they are learning that they don't need the bishops," one priest said.

He says that so-called "basis groups" or ordinary Catholics, run along communal lines and holding services distinctly unorthodox by Rome's standards, are flourishing, especially in the cities.

Church sources say the continuing split between the bishops is no longer evident in public disagreements which hit the headlines in a country with a large church-going population, but in the practices which they permit in their areas.

Married priests continue to operate in some dioceses (church provinces), although the sources say they are gradually disappearing from theological colleges, but are not recognised as priests in others.

Some bishops tacitly encourage

far-reaching contacts with other Christian churches while others vigorously oppose anything that goes beyond the limited ecumenical activities permitted by the Vatican.

Dutch Protestants say the effect of the synod has been to slow the pace of the ecumenical process and to make Catholic involvement much less official than they would like.

But they say Catholics committed to the goal of a unified church have not been discouraged.

A member of the Dutch Reformed Church says: "The split between radicals and traditionalists is by no means confined to the Catholic Church but is magnified by the authoritarian nature of the Catholic Church, so that it becomes a matter of discipline and obedience."

Meanwhile priests are taking an increasingly active part in politics, undeterred by a recent warning from the Vatican urging them to stay clear.

Many are actively involved with the powerful inter-church peace council which last month brought about 350,000 people onto the streets of Amsterdam to protest against the stationing of new nuclear missiles in Western Europe.

Ordinary Dutch Catholics, whose true feelings both radicals and traditionalists claim to represent, appear to lean to the radical side at least in their widespread involvement in the country's peace movement.

But as far as the practice of the faith itself is concerned, the trend in the Netherlands mirrors that in most other Western European countries.

Only 23.7 per cent of the Catholic population attended Sunday mass regularly in 1981, compared with 64.4 per cent in 1966, according to a report just published by the Catholic Institute for Social Research.

Ordinations to the priesthood fell to 16 in 1980 from 318 in 1960 and the number of Dutch converts to Catholicism dropped to 895 in 1980 from 4,300 in 1955.

Both radicals and traditionalists agree that no purely quantitative study can truly reflect the state of Catholicism in the Netherlands, which both say remains healthy.

But both are also agreed that the prospect of reconciliation between the Dutch Church's warring factions remains remote.

— Reuters

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On Sunday The 10th Of January 1982
 Between 5 P.M. And 7 P.M. At
 Jordan Intercontinental Hotel
 Jabal Amman
 Exhibition Will Continue Till Jan. 16

Open Invitation

ECONOMY

'EEC inefficiency' hampers aid to developing countries

BRUSSELS, Jan. 8 (R) — West European food aid to developing countries in 1980 was hampered by delays, poor quality and inaccurate budgeting, according to an official report released today.

The annual report of the European Economic Community (EEC) court of auditors criticised the community's executive commission and council of ministers for numerous cases of inefficiency in allocating and distributing aid.

In 1980, the EEC spent about \$350 million on sending cereals, skimmed milk powder, butter oil and sugar as free gifts to countries such as Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Egypt.

But in many cases the food arrived soiled, moist or in damaged containers, according to the aud-

itors.

The procedure for granting aid was slow and confused, with ministers taking more than three months to rubber-stamp aid proposals from the commission, the report said.

Developing countries often did not fulfil the conditions attached to aid they received, and the regulations allowed wide leeway for fraud, it said.

The commission's budgetary allocations for food aid bore no relation to the actual payments, the report said. Only 60 per cent of money set aside for 1980 had been used, while payments during 1980 for previous years' programmes amounted to over 400 per cent of the original estimates.

EEC officials have said they are

aware of the deficiencies of the food aid programme following a previous highly critical report from the auditors, and development ministers agreed recently to try to improve it.

The report also attacked deficiencies in EEC financial aid for specific development projects. Many of these failed because they were on too large a scale and were not adapted to the population and environment they were supposed to benefit, it said.

It cited agricultural complexes in Zaïre which it said were still not viable at least 10 years after completion.

"The projects of most lasting value are generally those which are simplest and directly benefit the local community concerned," the report said.

War brings economic crisis to El Salvador

By Hugh O'Shaughnessy

"Cheer up, things could get worse more slowly," says a notice in English in the office of Sr Atilio Vieytes, the Salvadorean planning minister. "It's my motto," he remarks cheerfully.

It certainly needs a sense of humour and a good deal of vision to be a minister in the government of President Jose Napoleon Duarte these days. The civil war being fought between Sr Duarte's government and Left wing insurgents is claiming the lives of well over 1,000 people a month in this tiny country, and shows no sign of victory for either side.

The economy is dependent on a complex life support system organised by the U.S. government. If the life support system falters the economy could collapse. It could collapse anyway.

Contrary to appearance it is the economic threat posed by the Left wing insurgents rather than the military threat they represent that puts President Duarte's junta in the greater jeopardy. After two years of Left wing insurrection only a confirmed visionary can see much hope in El Salvador's medium term future.

The exact state of the economy is a matter for controversy. The gross national product fell 8.5 per cent last year. The government suggests that with luck it could climb back to zero growth in 1982. The U.S. embassy says that the bottom of the curve is being reached and upwards is the only way to go. The church-run Universidad Centroamericana (UCA) says the worst is still to come.

No one denies however, that private investment is virtually nil, business confidence is at a low ebb, foreign debts are mounting — albeit from a low base — and the government urgently needs foreign aid. Not all the travails are due to the action of the Left-wing

guerrillas. Low prices for El Salvador's main exports, coffee, cotton and sugar, compounded with the world depression and the crisis in the Central American Common Market, formerly an eager buyer of the country's manufactured goods, would have dimmed Salvadorean economic prospects anyway.

What would have been a crisis has this year been turned to something close to disaster by the actions of the 6,000 FMLN guerrillas and their civilian associates, the FDR or Revolutionary Democratic Front. The blowing up of scores of pylons and attacks on power stations have resulted in grave power cuts whose results have ranged from tons of shrimp rotting in crippled cold stores to the shutdown of factories. Communications with the eastern third of the country have been impeded by the dynamiting of the Puente de Oro, the principal bridge across the River Lempa.

Consequently per capita GNP will probably drop by more than 20 per cent this year which means it will be down a total of 38 per cent on 1978. The proportion of the work force which has permanent employment is put at no more than 38 per cent.

Fixed capital investment, which in 1979 reached nearly \$100 million, is now down to less than half of this figure which means that not even depreciation is being covered by new money.

The rate of inflation this year, according to government calculation, will be no more than 20 per cent at worst, but UCA suggests that the real level could be 54 per cent.

In such a situation President Duarte is forced to have increasing recourse to the U.S. Government.

In fiscal 1981 the U.S. Government spent \$133 million in civilian aid and in fiscal 1982 this figure could near \$200 million. Military aid in fiscal 1981 was \$35.4 million and this will almost certainly rise. The State Department is not without its difficulties in the U.S. where many legislators are suspicious of a Vietnam-type inv-

olvement, where the churches are often strongly opposed to further help to President Duarte and where budget-cutting has precedence over foreign aid, however worthy the recipient.

The U.S. government is therefore using every art of persuasion to get the international lending agencies to pitch in dollars and to convince governments sympathetic to the Duarte junta to help out. In the year to date the World Bank should have put in some \$77 million, despite the fact that for months it suspended disbursements because the security situation would not allow it to oversee the projects it was funding. The International Monetary Fund has put in \$123 million despite the fact that the Duarte junta is working with what are effectively dual exchange rates and an overvalued currency while the Inter-American Development Bank, very reliant now on the good will of Washington for new capital resources, has put up \$102 million.

The U.S. and the Duarte government are hoping that the levels of multilateral aid will be maintained or raised and expect that more money will come in from Argentina, Uruguay and Venezuela. Thus the \$300 million that President Duarte says he needs next year should be met. The Central Reserve Bank, however, warns that the total the country will need over the next three years will be \$1.2 billion. This would represent \$80 a year for every man, woman, and child till the end of 1984.

While the U.S. Government does its best to keep the Salvadorean economy afloat it lends powerful support to the efforts of President Duarte to beat the insurgents militarily and to hold credible elections for a constituent assembly in March.

Military aid, as audited, in fiscal 1981, came to \$35.4 million and President Reagan hopes almost to double that figure in the coming year.

As President Duarte struggles to prepare for the March elections Washington has been waging an international diplomatic battle to mute growing calls from the U.N. the French and Mexican governments and many other quarters for negotiations to end the fighting.

It has also been trying to persuade foreign governments and institutions to recognise and observe the poll. Here there have been difficulties. President Duarte in his year in power has lost much

of the popularity he enjoyed a decade ago when he was a much acclaimed Mayor of San Salvador.

The high murder rate and the recklessness of the army have put paid to whatever slim hope there once might have been that the centre and the Left would participate in the March poll and thus make it a genuine test of public opinion.

At the same time the powerful Salvadorean extreme Right has turned against President Duarte. They blame him for not being even tougher with the insurgents and their sympathisers.

In such circumstances it is difficult to see how the March poll could give much legitimacy to the

winners, whoever they were to be. At the same time, a negotiated settlement, the solution offered by the Left and endorsed by a growing body of world opinion, seems almost as forlorn. The Left is a precarious alliance.

For its part, the Right is also split. Negotiations between a well entrenched guerrilla movement and a Right to which the U.S. has pledged its full support, would be unlikely to bring any easy compromise, such is the bitterness existing between the contenders. The prospect is that war, with consequent loss of life and money, will continue for a long time to come.

—Financial Times news feature

U.S. jobless rate up to 8.9%

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (R) — Unemployment in the United States jumped to 8.9 per cent of the workforce in December, approaching the post-war record, from 8.4 per cent in November, the labour department said today.

It was the second successive sharp monthly rise in the jobless rate, a reflection of the spreading U.S. recession, and 9.5 million Americans are now out of work.

The December increase hit particularly hard in the manufacturing sector as companies across the country laid off workers because of declining sales.

The increase of half a percentage point in December followed a jump of 0.4 per cent the

previous month.

The jobless rate is now approaching the nine per cent post-war record of May 1975 during the severe recession of 1974-75. Some private economists fear unemployment could reach 10 per cent before the latest recession runs its course.

President Reagan's economic advisers have predicted that the jobless rate could go to nine per cent, but have said the economy will begin to recover in the spring and help bring the rate back down.

The unexpectedly sharp decline

in the economy over the past few months, attributed to the effects of tight monetary policies aimed at curbing inflation, has played havoc with the administration's budget projections, driving spending up and reducing government revenues.

Each percentage point rise in the unemployment rate also adds roughly \$25 billion to \$30 billion to the budget deficit because of higher spending for unemployment benefits and lost revenues from workers who are not paying taxes.

Toyota gets Iraqi order

TOKYO, Jan. 8 (R) — Iraq has awarded a contract to Japan's Toyota Motor Sales Company Ltd. for imports of 36,000 vehicles, Toyota said yesterday.

The sales arm for Japan's biggest automaker, Toyota Motor Company Ltd., declined to disclose the cost, but said the order from the Iraq State Organisation of Imports (ISOI) called for the shipment of 10,000 cars and 26,000 commercial vehicles including jeep-type trucks and minibuses by the end of this year.

The order from ISOI is in addition to a separate order last month for 15,000 cars from Toyota which also sold 60,000 vehicles, mostly lorries, to Iraq in

1980.

In addition, Nissan Diesel Motor Company Ltd. another Japanese automaker, said it has won an order from ISOI for 1,000 large lorries and buses for shipment this year.

U.S. casino revenues total \$3.6b

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 8 (R) — Revenues from casino gambling in the United States rose 20 per cent to about \$3.6 billion in 1981, according to the accounting firm of Laventhol and Horwath.

A major part of the increase occurred in Atlantic City, New Jersey, where nine casino-hotels were operating by the end of the year. Their revenues rose from \$642 million in 1980 to about \$1.1 billion last year, the firm said.

Casinos in Nevada were expected to produce about \$2.5 billion, a slight increase over \$2.36 billion in 1980.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON, Jan. 8 (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at the midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets today.

One sterling	1.9147/57	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.1867/70	Canadian dollars
	2.2600/10	West German marks
	2.4790/4815	Dutch guilders
	1.8280/95	Swiss francs
	38.50/52	Belgian francs
	5.7390/7420	French francs
	1209.75/1210.25	Italian lire
	221.60/70	Japanese yen
	5.5550/70	Swedish crowns
	5.821/30	Norwegian crowns
	7.3750/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	398.00/398.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON, Jan. 8 (R) — Equities were mixed while government bonds added 1/4 or 3/8 point in fairly quiet trading. Dealers said. At 1500, the F.T. index was up 0.9 at 530.4.

Chemicals were in demand. Glaxo outstanding with a 12p rise to 434. Beecham and ICI were both up 4p. Electricals were depressed, with Thorn off 15p at 445 and Racal and GEC down 2p and 3p respectively. Elsewhere, movements of a penny or two either way were the norm, although Lucas managed a 5p gain. Gold shares and North American names were narrowly mixed. Discount houses, marked sharply lower yesterday after the Smith St. Aubyn rights issue announcement, managed gains of a few pence, dealers said. Smith itself was up 2p to 58 compared with 131 before the announcement. Union recovered well with a 10p gain to 408 against 403 at the start yesterday.

Bank of Scotland, volatile of late on bid speculation, was unchanged at 517 after 524. Other banks were narrowly mixed.

P and O and Unigate, also rumoured to be takeover candidates, fell 1p and 2p respectively.

Malaysia cuts oil price

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan. 8 (R) — Malaysia has joined the latest round of oil price cuts by shaving up to one dollar a barrel off its crude prices under pressure from a persistent world glut, according to oil industry sources.

The sources said it will now charge \$37.60 for a barrel of its light crude, down 30 U.S. cents, and \$35.10 for its bi-tonal crude, a one-dollar reduction.

Last July the Malaysian state oil agency Petronas had to cut prices by two dollars.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3

5:30	Koran
5:50	Cartoons
6:15	Rainbow
6:35	Cartoons
7:20	Local Programme
7:30	Local Programme on Agriculture
8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	Arabic Series
9:30	Local Programme
10:10	Arabic Play
11:30	News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6

6:00	French Programme
7:00	News in French
7:30	News in Hebrew
7:45	Varieties
8:00	News in Arabic
8:30	Comedy: M.A.S.H.
8:55	Doctor
9:30	Saturday Variety Show
10:00	News in English
10:15	Feature Film: Can't Help Singing

JORDAN RADIO

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM

7:00	Sign on
7:01	Morning Show
7:30	News Bulletin
7:40	Morning Show
8:00	News Summary
8:30	Radiotheque
9:00	Sign off
9:01	News Headlines
9:05	Pop Session
9:30	News Summary
10:00	News Bulletin
10:10	Instrumentals
10:30	Over a Cup of Tea
10:50	Concert Hour
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Instrumentals

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

GMT

04:00	Newsdesk
04:30	Backtracking
04:45	Financial News
05:00	World News
05:15	British Press Review
05:45	About Britain
06:00	World News
06:15	Book Choice
06:45	The World Today
06:50	Terry Wogan's Album Time
07:00	World News
07:15	From the Weeklies
07:30	The French Minute
07:45	Network U.K.
08:00	World News
08:15	Reflections
08:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
09:00	World News
09:15	The World Today
09:30	Financial News
09:45	Look Ahead
10:00	Science in Action
10:15	About Britain
10:30	A Murder of Quality
11:00	World News
11:15	News
11:25	The Week in Wales
11:30	Marillion
12:00	Radio Newsworld
12:15	Anything Goes
12:45	Sports Round-up
13:00	World News
13:15	Commentary
13:15	World News
13:30	Golden Treasury
13:45	A Touch of Genius
14:15	I Spy Fiction
14:30	Rhythm 'n' Roots
15:00	Radio Newsworld
15:15	World News
15:30	Special 16:00 World News
16:00	World News
16:15	Saturday Special
17:00	News Summary
17:00	News Summary
17:30	Sports Round-Up
18:00	World News
18:15	Radio Newsworld
18:30	Play of the Week
19:30	Terry Wogan's Album Time
20:00	World News

20:15 Goods Books

20:30 Death and the Magician 21:15 Twentieth Century Folk 21:30 People and Politics 22:00 World News: From Our Own Correspondent 22:30 New Ideas 22:40 Reflections 22:45 Sports Round-up 23:00 World News: Commentary 23:15 Letterbox 23:30 Meridian

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT

03:30	The Breakfast Show: news on the hour and 28 min. after each hour 17:00 Weekend 18:00 Special English: newswords and their stories, feature, short stories 18:30 New York, New York 19:00 News and This Week 19:30 Press Conference USA 20:00 Special English: newswords and their stories 20:15 Music USA (Jazz) 21:00 Weekend
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AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:

8:00	Cairo (EA)
8:45	Cairo (EA)
9:05	Agaba
9:30	Jeddah
9:40	Dhahran
9:45	Kuwait
9:50	Karachi, Dubai
10:00	Doha, Bahrain
10:10	Beirut
10:15	Abu Dhabi
11:05	Abu Dhabi (SwissAir)
11:05	Riyadh (Saudia)
16:30	Cairo
17:25	London (BA)
17:45	Copenhagen, Athens
17:45	New York, Vienna
18:00	Cairo
18:05	Rome (Alitalia)
18:05	London (BA)
20:20	Cairo (EA)
20:30	Beirut (MEA)
20:30	Frankfurt
00:20	Cairo (EA)
01:00	Baghdad

DEPARTURES:

3:00	Cairo
6:15	Frankfurt (LH)
6:45	Beirut
7:00	Agaba
7:40	Damascus, Paris (AF)
9:00	Cairo (EA)
9:25	Beirut (MEA)
10:00	Frankfurt
11:00	Vienna, New York
11:30	Cairo
11:45	Geneva, Brussels
11:55	Zurich (SwissAir)
12:00	London
12:00	Copenhagen (Scandinavian)
12:05	Riyadh (Saudia)
12:30	Paris
12:30	Cairo
13:15	Tripoli, Tunis
19:00	Kuwait
19:30	Jeddah
20:00	Cairo
20:15	Baghdad
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai
21:15	Cairo (EA)
22:00	Baghdad
01:15	Cairo (EA)

EMERGENCIES

DOCTORS:

Amman:	76258
Munzir Al Qasbi	76258
Ismail Al Hawandeh	33029/62295
Zarga:	
Mahmoud Qoorah	85132
Irbid:	
Mohammad Al Shar	73680
PHARMACIES:	
Amman:	
Al Arabiyah Al Kubrah	23141
Salameh	94779
Fattaleh	37140
Al Khilas	22943
Al 'Ijjah	72068

Zarga:

Al Jalb	(-)
Royal	(-)
Irbid:	
Al Hadithah	2308
TAXIS:	
Taxi	44660
Al Neil	44433
Tariq	23024
Shameisani	65294
Asen	66593

CULTURAL CENTRES

American Centre	41520
British Council	36147-8
French Cultural Centre	37009
Goethe Institute	41993
Soviet Cultural Centre	44283
Spanish Cultural Centre	24049
Turkish Cultural Centre	39777
Haya Arts Centre	65195
Al Hussein Youth City	67181
Y.W.C.A.	41793
Y.W.M.A.	64251
Amman Municipal Library	36111
University of Jordan Library	84355/84366

SERVICE CLUBS

Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Grand Palace Hotel, 1.30 p.m.	
Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 1.30 p.m.	
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m.	
Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1.30 p.m.	

MUSEUMS

Military Museum: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Sunday to Friday. Closed on Saturdays. Tel. 64240.	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The	

CHURCHES

Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luw- eidh 37440	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Cat- holic) Jabal Amman 24590	
De la Salle Church (Roman Cat- holic) Jabal Hussein 66428	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali 23641	
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman 23585	
Armenian Orthodox Church Ash- rafieh 75261	
Armenian Catholic Church Ash- rafieh 71331	



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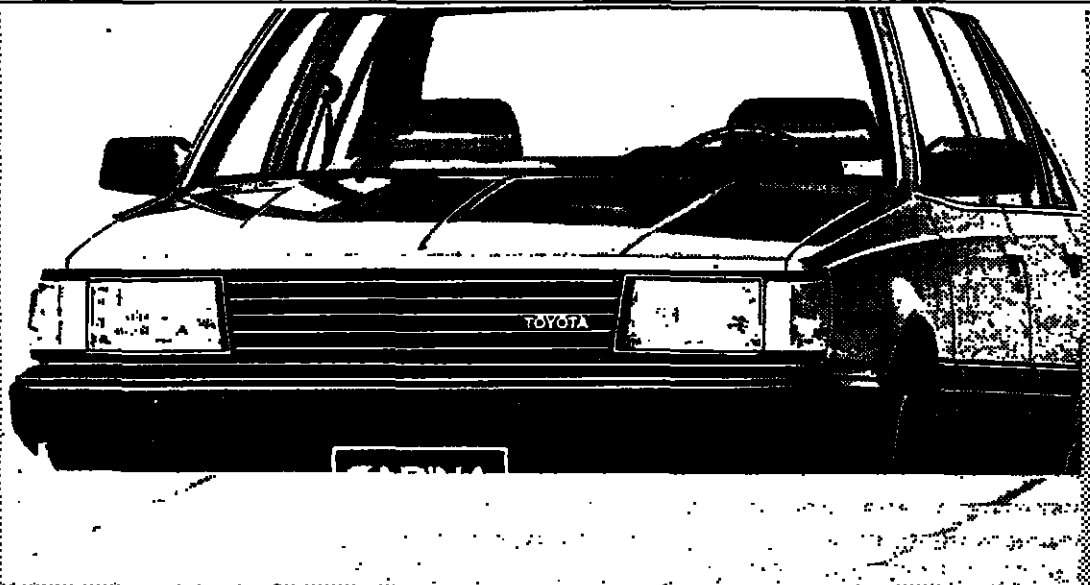
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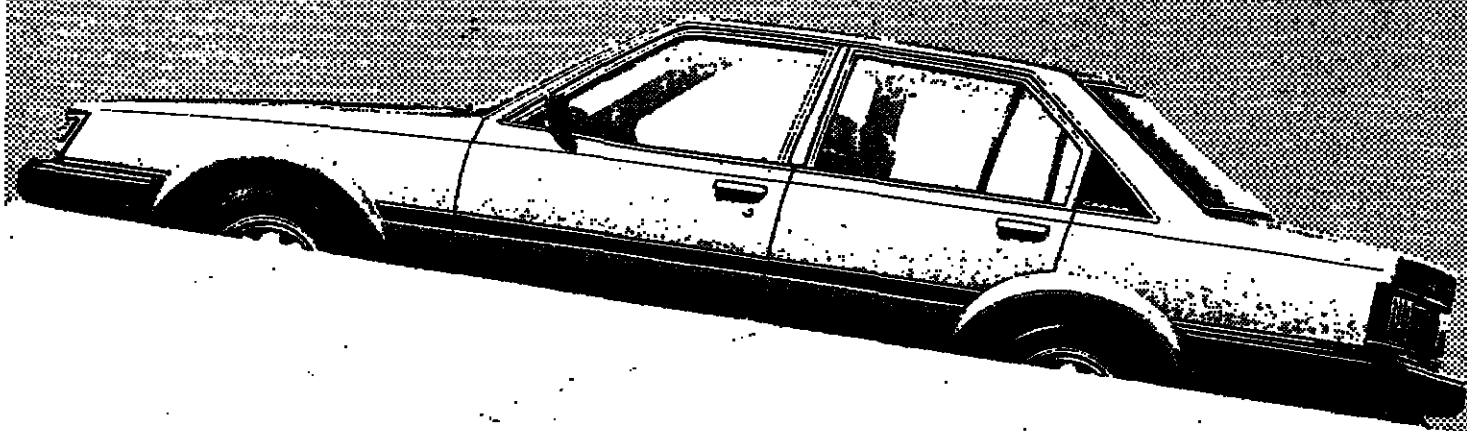
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TOYOTA

SPORTS

New Zealand confident for World Cup qualifier against China

SINGAPORE, Jan. 8 (R) — The New Zealand soccer team arrived here today confident they will have the edge over China in Sunday's play-off to decide the 24th and last place in the World Cup finals in Spain this summer.

After being greeted by a colourful Maori welcome, English-born manager John Edshead predicted the game would be tight, but probably in his team's favour. "It's going to be close and I don't think there will be more than one goal between us," he told a press conference.

"But we have the edge since we have taken three points off China in our last two encounters."

In their Asia-Oceania qualifying zone matches New Zealand held China to a goalless draw in Peking and notched up a 1-0 victory in Auckland.

The two sides tied for second place behind group winners Kuwait following New Zealand's astonishing 5-0 triumph against Saudi Arabia last month.

"China were not prepared for

our win in Riyadh, it's left them on a downer while we are on an upper," Edshead said.

Meanwhile, Chinese officials dispelled doubts about the fitness of star forward Rong Zhihang.

The 33-year-old striker, dubbed "China's Pele" gave local fans a fright when he limped from the field during a training session last night nursing a left leg covered in Chinese medicated plaster, a remedy for pulled muscles.

But Chinese Football Association President Nian Weisi dismissed this adding: "There is nothing wrong with Zhihang."

The veteran star turned out with the 20-man squad for a workout this morning going through a series of strenuous exercises and practice moves apparently without any ill effects.

Keen interest in China's fortunes among Singapore's predominantly Chinese fans ensured that all 60,000 seats were snapped up within hours of going on sale yesterday. Thousands had camped out overnight in torrential storms to be sure of a ticket.

Netherlands out to avenge 1977 hockey defeat by Pakistan

BOMBAY, Jan. 8 (R) — The Netherlands will be out for revenge when they meet holders Pakistan in the semifinal of the men's World Hockey Cup on Sunday.

The Dutch, who pipped Olympic champions India on goal difference for a place in the last four, will be eager to avenge the defeat they suffered at the hands of Pakistan in the final of the last World Cup in Buenos Aires in 1977.

The other semifinal brings together Australia, unbeaten in their preliminary group, and West Germany.

Australia have made steady progress since finishing eighth in the first World Cup in Spain in 1971. They took fifth place in Kuala Lumpur in 1975 and moved up to third in Argentina.

India are still in a mood of despair after losing 2-1 to Australia yesterday, a defeat which cost the hosts a place in the semifinal. The Netherlands' 2-2 draw with the Soviet Union meant India would have advanced to the play-offs on goal difference if they had taken one point off the Australians.

In the play-off for places, India will meet New Zealand, Poland will play the Soviet Union, Spain will meet Malaysia and England will play Argentina.

Seedings decided for World Cup

PARIS, Jan. 8 (R) — Joao Havelange, President of the International Football Federation (FIFA), today confirmed reports that the World Cup organisers have decided on the seedings for next week's draw in Madrid.

Speaking to reporters in Paris, where he attended the draw for the 1984 European Championship, Havelange said the six top-seeded countries would be holders Argentina, hosts Spain, and former winners Italy, West Germany, England and Brazil.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN

1981 BY CHARLES H. GOREN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH	
♠ 83	
♥ A 742	
♦ Q 965	
♣ 832	
EAST	
♠ Q J 10 6 5	
♥ K J 9 6	
♦ 8	
♣ 6 5 4	
SOUTH	
♠ A K 7 4 2	
♥ Void	
♦ A K 7 4 2	
♣ A K 10	

The bidding:
South West North East
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
6 ♠ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

Bridge is a deceptive game. Some hands seem so easy that you can be lulled into a false sense of security, with the result that you fail to consider all possibilities. Then a quirk of distribution turns a huge profit into a loss. Here's a case in point. South's hand might not qualify as a textbook example of a demand bid, but his strong distributional features and wealth of controls more than compensated for any deficiency in high cards. When North supported his second suit freely, South leaped straight to the slam.

West led the queen of

clubs, and when dummy appeared declarer was slightly unhappy that he had not risked a grand slam. He won the king of clubs and drew trumps in three rounds without the slightest concern about what the future might have in store. Next came the ace and king of spades, and when West discarded a heart on the second spade, declarer's plight began to dawn on him. He had three spade losers and a club in his hand, and only one trump and the ace of hearts to take care of them. That still left him with a loser too many, so he ended up down one.

Declarer was unlucky to run into a 3-1 spade break and a 3-1 trump split—one of the few combinations that could defeat the slam. But declarer could have guarded against the actual distribution. If spades were 4-2 and trumps no worse than 3-1, the slam could never be defeated. So, before touching trumps, declarer should play the ace and king of spades. If both stand up, declarer can draw three trumps, ruff a spade and concede a spade if necessary but still make his slam.

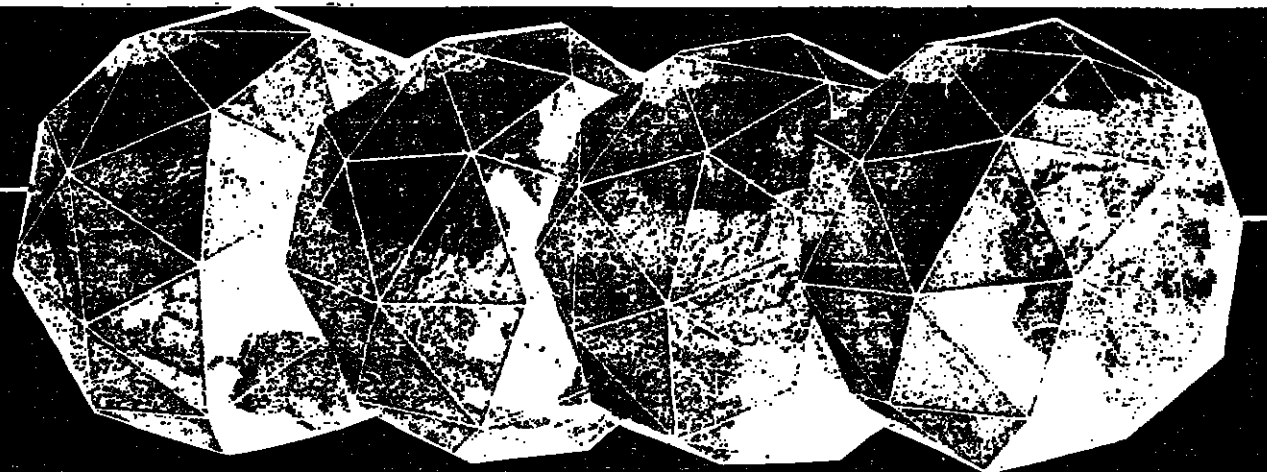
As the cards lie, West can ruff the second spade, but declarer is still safe. Best return is a trump. Declarer wins in hand and ruffs three spades in dummy, using the ace of clubs and a heart ruff as entries. The queen of diamonds on the board prevents West from scoring a second spade ruff, and the ace of hearts takes care of declarer's club loser.

Coe to make television commercials

LONDON, Jan. 8 (R) — Athlete Sebastian Coe, holder of three world records, is to appear on British television in a milk drink commercial.

Coe, the fastest man in the world over 800 and 1,000 metres and one mile, is the first Briton to take advantage of the new regulation allowing track-and-field athletes to advertise without endangering their amateur status.

The 25-year-old Olympic 1,500 metres champion will earn £30,000 for a series of 20-second commercials.



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FEATURES

Upholding puritanical traditions in Chinatown

By Robert Mahoney
— Reuter

SINGAPORE — "Next please," shouts a street hawker as he unrolls a 10-foot (three-metre)-long python from around his blood-spattered arm.

A diminutive Chinese housewife shuffles forward to take a dripping plastic bag containing the family's evening meal — a pound of python. The young butcher skins pythons and iguanas and prides the shells off turtles while his mother takes the money from the early morning shoppers in the busy market streets of Singapore's Chinatown.

The scene and the surroundings have changed little over the decades but soon they will be swallowed up by concrete and glass skyscrapers slowly tightening their grip around the 2.5 sq. kilometre area.

Bulldozers will shortly put an end to scenes like this in the colourful and noisy enclave to make way for towering offices and apartment blocks.

The so-called "wet market" in the Cantonese quarter, one of Chinatown's seven dialect groups, is alive with shoppers and hawkers buying and selling everything from dried cockroaches and bats — reputed to be good for asthma and improving virility — to reptile meat, tropical fruits and joss-sticks.

But the days of street vending are numbered as progress in the guise of health and income tax inspectors herd hawkers into government-designated food and shopping centres where they will pay both rent and taxes.

Next year will see the disappearance of all Chinatown's 4,000 makeshift roadside stalls and with them a way of life that has thrived ever since the British settled the first Chinese immigrants into an area South of the Singapore river 150 years ago.

Concrete and glass tower blocks have been gnawing at the edges of Chinatown for the last 15 years but Singapore planners have hastened the process. Land is at a premium on the tiny, 620 sq. kilometre island and the profits from office and shop development are enormous.

At one time, Chinatown was on the seafloor but as land was reclaimed, so its southern perimeter became dominated by new commercial buildings and banks in the island's blossoming business district.

"Take a good look," said an official guide, pointing to rows of decorative, balconied two-storey shop houses. "There will be nothing of this left in a few years."

"All these streets are coming down. The storekeepers and craftsmen who live and work here will be resettled in high rise apartment blocks."

The guide, Lim Kim Guan, grew up in Chinatown at a time when Chinese secret societies ran organised crime, and rickshaw coolies jammed the narrow streets.

He regrets the passing of much of the traditional lifestyle, though his own points to Chinatown's future — he moved out several years ago for the greater comfort of a government flat.

About 300,000 people used to live in Chinatown but since World

War II the number dwindled to 100,000 as homes gave way to offices and the younger generation, like Mr. Lim, moved into public housing authority flats.

There are those who prefer to stay, living perhaps eight to 100.

Their lives inevitably spill over into the street where eating, drinking and entertainment are all

cheaply and noisily available beneath a canopy of dripping laundry.

Despite the shadow cast by the neighbouring tower blocks, Chinatown has a relatively prosperous air. The range of fresh produce on the stalls is impressive and there is no shortage of money among the older people who want to gamble at Mahjong.

Singapore's Chinatown is deeply traditional, not glossy new rich. Shop signs are hand-painted not lurid neon and in keeping with the island's general puritanism, there are no discotheques, massage parlours or girls bars nesting in side alleys to entice tourists.

It is precisely because of this

sense of the living past that people like Mr. Lim feel it is essential to retain a large part of Chinatown.

"It is no use preserving a temple here and a row of houses there," he said. "You have to save a whole thriving community, make a haven for the traditional trades and skills that have been driven from other areas."

Moldavian plays it up with violins



Gypsy violins made by German Kostrubin. (TASS)

A set of now forgotten old violins has been made for the folk music company Leutarii by German Kostrubin, a skillful violin-maker from Moldavia, a Soviet republic in the southwest of the USSR. For that work, he was awarded the title of People's Master of the Republic.

His studio contains violins of various shapes and sizes, times and schools. Some are over 200 years old, others have not yet been played.

German Kostrubin has restored scores of violins among

which are violins of 17th century made by Italian masters. Musicians from Moscow, Yerevan, Odessa, Nikolayev and other cities turn to German for help and advice. He not only restores violins made by masters of the past but makes his own violins.

Moldavia's Ministry of Culture provided a special studio in which German together with his trainees is making violins of various sizes for children to learn to play.



German Kostrubin, a violin-maker from Moldavia, a Soviet republic in the southwest of the Soviet Union.

THE BETTER HALF By Vinson

"Her age is unlisted and if you drag it out of her, it'll probably be a WRONG number."

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TRAFC

TELLU

CARFIB

PHANEP

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: "_____"

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: PECAN FUROR NUTRIA GAINED
Answer: What kind of an impression did the cops have of the crook?—A FINGERPRINT

Peanuts

Mutt 'n' Jeff

Andy Capp

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 9, 1982

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to enjoy the pursuits which bring you the greatest amount of relief from pressures. A time to express your appreciation to those who have been loyal to you in the past.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contacting associates and talking over how to improve the relationship is wise at this time. Avoid a troublemaker.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can make the right improvements to your surroundings now and gain added prestige. Plan the future wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Your finest talents can be expressed most intelligently now and you can make a fine impression on others. Be logical.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Show that you appreciate new benefits which you now enjoy. Strive for more happiness and harmony in the home.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You are able to gain the support of those who are important in your life. Show true appreciation in a tangible way.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are now able to get the backing you need so that you can put a new project in operation. Make improvements to property.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You can accomplish almost anything you set your mind to at this time. Attend the social tonight and show affection for friends.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Let your intuitive forces come to the fore now which can be helpful when dealing with allies. Take no risks in motion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Think in terms of how you can help friends in need. Any social affairs to which you are invited should be attended.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Obtain the right appliances which will make your home more functional and efficient. Don't lose your temper with foes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Obtain the information you need from the right source. A friend can be most helpful to you now. Show your appreciation.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Don't take loved one so much for granted. Make sure your bills are paid. Take steps to improve your surroundings.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one of those persons with a particular charm that most everyone likes. There is much artistry in this nature and this should be accented in the educational curriculum. Don't neglect ethical training.

"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

FOR RENT

Fully furnished apartment consisting of two bedrooms, sitting room and dining room, with telephone, colour T.V., central heating and secured water supply.

Location: 4th Circle, Jabal Amman
Call tel. 41925, 42265

GOOD LOCATION FOR RENT

A house with independent telephone and central heating. Three bedrooms, two sitting rooms, two glazed verandas and maid's room; very spacious kitchen. Wall-to-wall carpeting.

Planted garden and parking area. Located in 6th - 7th circle area, Jabal Amman. Can be let furnished or unfurnished.

For appointment call 812399, anytime.

UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN FACULTY OF ARTS

The Language Centre Courses in ARABIC for non-native speakers

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan is planning to offer courses in Modern Standard Arabic for members of the foreign community in Amman. Classes are due to start on Feb. 6, and will last until May 26, 1982. Classes will meet three days a week from 5:30 to 7:10 p.m. (i.e., six class hours a week). The course fee is JD 35.

Those interested should contact the Language Centre as soon as possible, at 843555, extension 1441. Working hours are 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 5 p.m., Saturday-Wednesday.

In addition, the centre will continue to offer its 20-hour a week morning courses in Arabic for non-native speakers. The fee for these courses is JD 100 a semester.

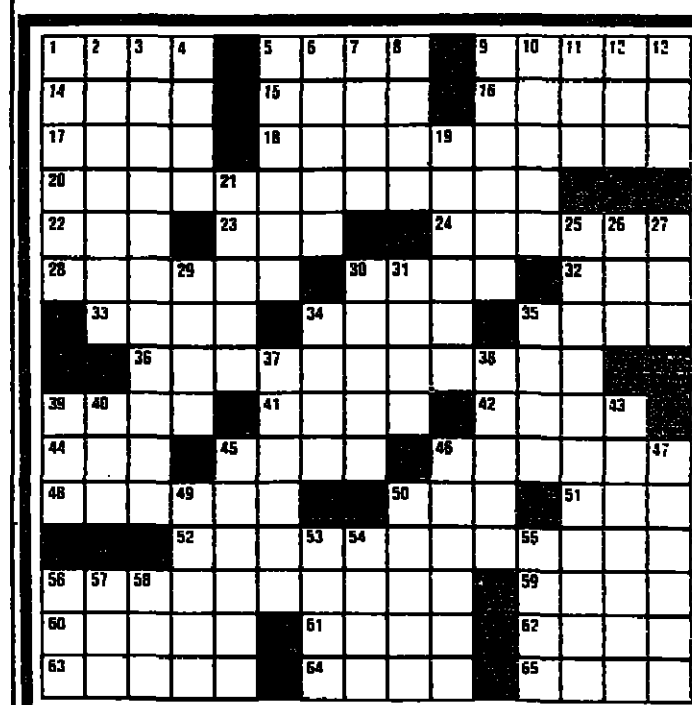
Dr. Muhammad H. Ibrahim, director the Language Centre

THE Daily Crossword By Mark Santora

ACROSS	DOWN	DOWN	DOWN
1 Final	30 Tourney draws	51 Him, to	11 Pedro's
5 After under	32 Plaything	52 Montana	12 Biddy
9 Turning	33 Like the	56 In verse	13 Nav. off.
14 To shelter	34 Earth	59 Bakery	19 Lansbury
15 Cruising	35 Fish-eating	60 Actress	21 Priscilla's
16 Foreigner	36 Quixote's	62 No-good	25 Prudish
17 Anjou,	38 Crystallize	63 Hear of	26 Eternity
for one	41 A Kennedy	64 Invites	27 "Catcher"
18 Mafia	42 Apple	65 Saga of	29 USSR sea
people	43 Pitcher	the Norse	30 Increase
20 Spectacle	44 Amusement		31 Cry of
22 Illuminated	45 Iambic		34 Strider
23 Permission	46 Gaucho		35 Pound of
paper abbr.	48 Alert again		poetry
24 Amusing	50 Lexicon		37 Actor
situation	51 Letters		Richard
28 Salt-covered			38 Requires
ered plain			39 Shake
			loose

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

1977 Derby	40 Ram's mate
winner	43 Pan-fried
4 Alas,	45 Not liquid
before	46 Kingdoms
statehood	47 — Leone
5 Soviet	48 Lum's
satellite	partner
6 Stern or	50 — Mountains
Hayes	(US range)
7 Mass,	53 Verdi role
R.L. etc.	54 Sept.
8 "Strip" of	55 Flooring
Palestine	56 "My Gai"
9 Mario's	57 Fasten
family	58 Doctors'
10 Pseudonym	org.



WORLD

Britain, Spain reach first step to solve Rock issue

Blockade of Gibraltar to be lifted April 20

LONDON, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of Britain and Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo of Spain announced today the 12-year Spanish blockade of Gibraltar will end on April 20 when negotiations are set to begin on the future of the British crown colony.

The joint announcement was made after discussions at 10 Downing St. between Mrs. Thatcher and Mr. Calvo Sotelo, here for a one-day official visit. It was their first meeting.

The reopening of land and sea communications between Spain and Rock at the Southern tip of the Iberian Peninsula removes an

obstacle to Spain's entry into NATO and the European Common Market.

The British colony has been a bone of contention between the two countries since its seizure in 1704 by a British-Dutch fleet after a three-day siege. Ever since then, Spain has claimed sovereignty over Gibraltar.

Communications were cut in 1969 by the late Gen. Francisco Franco who closed the frontier.

The joint communiqué today said that discussions between the two prime ministers "covered a range of international issues including NATO, the European Community and East-West relations."

The British prime minister warmly welcomed the prospect of Spain's entry into NATO and accession to the EEC.

"Both governments have agreed to start on April 20, 1982, the negotiations envisaged in the Lisbon statement with the aim of overcoming all the differences between them on Gibraltar. On the same day, direct communications will be re-established as provided for in the Lisbon statement."

The Lisbon agreement of 1980 provided that Spain would lift its blockade as soon as negotiations began on a settlement. That agreement was never implemented.

Gen. Franco imposed the blockade on Gibraltar in 1969, closing the land border after the Rock's 25,000 inhabitants voted to retain links with Britain rather than Spain.

Since then, the only way in or out of the colony has been by air or sea. The only ferry service now operating is to the Moroccan port of Tangier.

Spain has a long-standing territorial claim on Gibraltar. Seized by the British in 1704, it resisted three Spanish attempts to recapture it before being ceded to Britain "forever" by the 1713 Treaty of Utrecht.

Britain has strongly supported Spain's efforts to join the European Common Market, and British officials said Gibraltar was the only impediment in relations with Spain.

Gibraltar is still a sensitive political issue in Spain. King Juan Carlos refused to attend the wedding of Britain's heir to the throne, Prince Charles, last July on learning he would begin a Mediterranean honeymoon cruise from Gibraltar.

Europeans open Ankara talks

ANKARA, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — A 21-member parliamentary delegation from the Council of Europe opened talks here today with Turkey's military rulers which may be crucial for the 16-month-old military regime's links with Western Europe.

The delegation, headed by British Labour Member of Parliament Tom Urwin, arrived in Ankara last night and met Turkish Foreign Minister İsmet Türker and the speaker of the nominated consultative assembly Sadi İrmak. They were to meet with the head of state, Gen. Kenan Evren, and Prime Minister Bulend Ecevit later.

Mr. İrmak received the delegation in a conference hall of the now-dissolved parliament, telling the European legislators that Turkey's new constitution would be "progressive, humanistic, democratic and pluralistic."

The 160-member consultative assembly is helping Turkey's generals to draft a new constitution for a return to democracy. Gen. Evren has said elections will be held in Turkey in late 1983 or early 1984.

Reagan reinstates the draft

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (R) — President Reagan, reversing his campaign position, has announced he would continue the registration of 18-year-old Americans for possible military service because "we live in a dangerous world."

Mr. Reagan said in a statement yesterday he would not ask Congress to re-impose actual conscription since there was no national emergency at present to justify such a step.

The president disclosed 900,000 young Americans who failed to register for the draft in 1981 under an order of former President Jimmy Carter would be given a grace period to report before the government considered steps to prosecute them.

No Americans have been conscripted since the early 1970s when the Vietnam war ended but President Carter ordered registration by 18-year-olds to show U.S. resolve in reacting to Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in December, 1979.

A Justice Department spokesman said the department was working on details of the 30-60 day grace period for tardy registrars; but complex legal issues needed to be worked out before a final ruling was issued.

Officials said Mr. Reagan, who opposed registration when he campaigned for the presidency in 1980, accepted Pentagon arguments that abandoning it now would signal weakness at a time of crisis in Poland and with Soviet troops still in Afghanistan.

However, White House Counselor Edwin Meese told reporters the Polish situation was "not a major consideration" in the decision.

Mr. Meese also said the grace period for those who have failed to register so far probably would be 30 to 60 days. After that, the administration would have no choice but to prosecute them.

About 6.6 million Americans have obeyed the registration order, the selective service system said, since it became law in June, 1980. Failure to register could bring a five-year jail term and up to \$10,000 fine.

Mr. Reagan said he was reinstating the draft because "we live in a dangerous world."

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Reagan blasts Post story on Meese's transfer

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — President Reagan today denounced as "absolutely untrue" a published report that White House aides are pushing for Counselor Edwin Meese to leave his job and perhaps become attorney general. "This matter is made up out of whole cloth, and for those who don't understand what that means, it's absolutely untrue," Mr. Reagan said in remarks relayed by a spokesman. In a story today, the Washington Post linked Mr. Meese's possible departure from the White House to the appointment last Monday of William Clark to a top job, as the president's national security adviser. "The reshuffling is contingent on Clark's mastering his new role as President Reagan's national security adviser, building a competent organization at the National Security Council staff and cementing a strong relationship with White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker III, these source said," the Post reported. "All that is likely to take from several months to a year."

The Post said the reshuffle was being advocated by Nancy Reagan and Michael K. Deaver, deputy chief of staff, among others. But they or their spokesmen vehemently denied it, the story noted.

Mr. Meese also said the grace period for those who have failed to register so far probably would be 30 to 60 days. After that, the administration would have no choice but to prosecute them.

About 6.6 million Americans have obeyed the registration order, the selective service system said, since it became law in June, 1980. Failure to register could bring a five-year jail term and up to \$10,000 fine.

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Victoria to ask Pretoria to extradite coup-plotters

VICTORIA, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — The Seychelles government has said it will ask South Africa to extradite Seychellois citizens living in South Africa who were involved in the Nov. 25 abortive coup in these Indian Ocean islands.

A communiqué from the ministry of education and information said an unspecified number of Seychellois citizens living in South Africa "would soon be charged in the supreme court here for their complicity" in the abortive coup.

The government said it will ask South Africa for their extradition in exchange for legal evidence to help prosecute 45 mercenaries who allegedly hijacked an Air India Boeing 707 jetliner after the botched coup bid and ordered it to Durban, South Africa.

The government communiqué followed South Africa's decision to charge all 45 mercenaries with hijacking. The Pretoria government initially released 39 mercenaries and charged five with kidnapping. One was hospitalized and never appeared in court.

The communiqué said some of the evidence it is willing to provide South Africa could help establish that the Air India jet on a scheduled flight from Salisbury to Bombay was deliberately tricked into landing at the international airport at Point Laue on the main island of Mahe.

The mercenaries had taken over the airport control tower and terminal buildings and were holding a gun at the back of the air traffic controller to force him to clear the Air India flight to land on the blocked runway, the communiqué said.

Pravda rages at U.S. charges of espionage

MOSCOW, Jan. 8 (R) — The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda today accused Washington of conducting an evil campaign of spying and sabotage against the Soviet Union.

A half-page article named several U.S. diplomats expelled from the Soviet Union in the last 10 years of spying charges, but it made no fresh accusations against the United States embassy.

It was accompanied by a photograph of guns, radios and other equipment described as the equipment of U.S. spy.

The article appeared to be a response to recent U.S. allegations that the Soviet KGB security police had stepped up espionage in the United States.

William Webster, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said in Washington on Sunday that about 35 per cent of Soviet diplomats in the United States were trained for KGB intelligence work.

Pravda said many U.S. spies, including Martha Peterson and Vincent and Becky Crockett, who were expelled in the 1970s, were caught red-handed.

"In wild anger and hatred for the forces of good, the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) resorts to the most evil subterfuges, using in their struggle against socialism hardened adventurers... ready to betray anything," it said.

"There is a veritable 'hunt' going on for scientists and designers, for the latest (Soviet) achievements in science and technology."

IRA slays part-time soldier

BELFAST, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — A part-time member of the Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) was shot dead today in North Belfast, police said.

The man, in his mid-20s, was killed by two gunmen as he opened a gasoline station he managed, police said.

hology intended to weaken the USSR's scientific potential and put it to the use of the United States. This sort of activity, hostile to the USSR, is conducted on directives from the top U.S. leadership," Pravda said.

Pravda also cited the case of Vladimir Kalinin, a Soviet citizen who was executed in 1975 after being convicted of passing information on munitions factories to U.S. embassy personnel.

A spokesman for the U.S. embassy had no comment on the article.

IRA slays part-time soldier

The victim, whose name was not immediately released, was the second person to die in terrorist violence in the British province this year and the first UDR man slain in 1982. Thirteen were killed in 1981.

The UDR is a chiefly Protestant, locally recruited regiment of the British army.

The IRA's Provisional wing later said in a statement that it was responsible for the slaying. The statement was issued by the Republican Information Centre in Belfast.

Police said the car used by the gunmen had been hijacked earlier in the staunchly Northern Catholic movement is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland and reunite the Protestant-dominated province with the Catholic Irish Republic.

The guerrillas have killed 122 members of the predominantly Protestant UDR since the regiment was formed in 1970.

Two ex-presidents, a retired general instrumental in ousting one of them and a liberal lawyer are among the candidates who will contest general elections in the Dominican Republic in May.

All were involved in one way or another in the civil war of 1965 amid the scramble for power after the end of the 31-year dictatorship of Gen. Rafael Trujillo.

The two ex-presidents are Juan Bosch of the Dominican Liberation Party (PLD) who was deposed in September 1963, after barely seven months in office, and Joaquín Balaguer of the Reformist Party (PR), winner of three successive elections from 1966 to 1978.

Mr. Bosch was deposed by the military headed by then colonel, now general, Elias Wessin y Wessin, the democratic Quisqueyan

U.S. 'concerned' over France-Nicaragua military ties

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8 (A.P.) — French Defence Minister Charles Hernu met today with U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and said afterward the United States is concerned about but does not disapprove of an increase in military ties between France and Nicaragua's leftist government.

"There is no deterioration in relations, no disapproval. An expression of concern, yes," Mr. Hernu told reporters after a breakfast meeting with Mr. Haig.

Europe gets bitter dose of winter

LONDON, Jan. 8 (R) — Severe weather with blizzards and freezing temperatures swept across Europe today, isolating towns and throwing traffic on roads and railways into chaos.

Snow storms covered central and southern Britain, cutting power supplies to 12,000 homes and disrupting communications.

London's Heathrow airport was struggling to keep one of its two runways clear and the other London airport at Gatwick was shut.

The blizzards dumped 30 centimetres of snow in parts of the southwest of England and strong winds piled snowdrifts eight 2.5 metres deep, cutting off four towns.

Power lines came crashing down under the weight of snow, blacking out 12,000 homes in Devon and Cornwall.

The heaviest snow storm of the winter shut down all services in the Irish capital, Dublin. In Scotland the mercury plunged to a bone-chilling 26 degrees below zero Centigrade, just one degree short

of the coldest temperature ever recorded in the British Isles.

Melting snow and rain sent West German rivers surging over their banks, flooding riverside communities and halting barge traffic on the Rhine and its tributaries, police said.

In Bonn, sandbag barricades were erected to stop the river from inundating the ground floor of the parliament building.

All large traffic was stopped on the Rhine, Europe's busiest inland waterway which in Cologne had risen 5.5 metres above normal.

River police said fields were flooded as far as the Dutch border. Many communities bordering the Rhine, Moselle and Main rivers were flooded.

A "snow hurricane" has hit the west of the Soviet Union, according to Moscow Radio's Kaliningrad correspondent.

Telephone and power lines were down and airports and roads closed. There was difficulty delivering food to remote villages and farms, according to the radio,

with luring 12 boys and young men into his "death van" where he sexually molested and killed them. He then dumped their bodies near the freeway, the network of highways that ring this sprawling city.

Many of the victims' friends and families sat in the first two rows of the crowded courtroom at the Los Angeles county criminal courts building. Some wept as the verdict was announced.

The jury ruled that the murders fit the so-called "special circumstances" required by California law in order to seek a death penalty. A date for sentencing was not immediately set.

Bonin's lawyer said he would appeal.

During the trial a local television reporter, David Lopez testified that Bonin told him he had killed 21 people, including 14-year-old Sean King. But Bonin was found innocent of murdering King.

Two alleged accomplices, James Munroe and Gregory Miles, both 20, also gave evidence against him. They have pleaded

guilty to murder charges and are awaiting sentencing.

Bonin is the latest in a series of mass murderers to be convicted in California courts, the most notorious being hippie cult leader Charles Manson, who is still behind bars.

Bonin was arrested on June 11, 1980, when police discovered him committing a homosexual act with a youth in his van in the Hollywood Hills.

According to evidence given at the two-month trial, Bonin's youngest victim was 12 years old.

Senior Reagan administration officials have expressed concern about Nicaragua's reported military buildup with weapons supplied by communist countries and allegedly funnelled through Cuba.

Mr. Hernu said, however, that Soviet shipments to Nicaragua amounted to 25 tanks and 12 artillery pieces — "Period, paragraph."

Asked whether the timing of the announcement was intentional or coincidental, Mr. Hernu replied, "I will leave you to be the judge."

Speaking with reporters after meeting with Mr. Weinberger, Mr. Hernu said, "The United States had never informed France that it should not sell defence material to Nicaragua, and that country has never been named as subject to a possible embargo."

"France... is playing its proper political role," he said. "If one doesn't want a country to become dependent on one of the two superpowers — in this case the Soviet Union — I think that our American friends should be glad that such a government goes to France rather than to the Soviet Union or Cuba when it seeks material that in no case can be used offensively against the United States."

Asked whether the timing of the announcement was intentional or coincidental, Mr. Hernu replied, "I will leave you to be the judge."

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Pentagon officials who asked not to be identified called the French move a "slap